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FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

February 1993

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Page 17

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# THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Magazine for a Strong America

Vol. 134, No. 2

February 1993

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THE AMERICAN LEGION magazine, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 3.1 million members. These military-service veterans, working through more than 15,000 community-level posts, dedicate themselves to God and country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's youths.

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## Two Parties Needed

For many years, I just took it for granted that The American Legion was strictly a part of the Republican Party because of its attitude and writings. The views expressed seemed to be always tinted in that direction.

Now I feel much better after reading the September Vetvoice with the letter from James Blankenship of Monroe, Ohio. He let the organization know that there are also veterans who belong to the Democratic party and whose views differ from Republicans.

Regardless of what anyone thinks or says, we do need the two-party system of government, and organizations such as The American Legion should not be biased in their views.

John P. Moran  
Carbondale, Pa.

## Homosexual Ban

Being a veteran, I am opposed to permitting homosexuals in the military. To do so will greatly harm the morale, efficiency and combat capability of our once proud and tough fighting forces. The military will become a haven for homosexuals committed to practicing their ungodly lifestyle rather than defending our nation.

Homosexuals should not be in military in any capacity and those ready in should be kicked out.

Morris H. Gardner  
Northport, Ala.

I was pleased to see The American Legion oppose lifting the ban on homosexuals in the Armed Forces. As veterans, we need to vocally oppose this measure.

Bill O'Rourke  
Ocean City, Md.

On Election Day, the war protesters of the Sixties demonstrated their concern, this time as maturing, middle-age members of the main stream. Suddenly, old orthodoxies and prejudices are being re-examined. All options and lifestyles are normative and accepted.

Homosexuals were in the military in World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm. They have always been with us. How many of my homophobic military buddies shared a pup tent in training or a fox hole in combat with homosexuals.

Psychologists tell us that homophobics are simply trying to reaffirm their own sexuality.

Although the military lives, fights

and dies in extremely close quarters, often huddling for warmth or mutual security, homosexuality never has been a problem of military significance.

Mort Brigadier  
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret.)  
Spring Valley, Calif.

We should stop gays, perverts, etc. from staying in or entering the U.S. Armed Forces. Navy justice is not wrong on this issue. Try shipboard or close quarter duty: You have an explosive situation. I know. I've been there in World War II. This has nothing to do with civil rights. Gays use this as leverage.

Jack A. Farley  
San Rosell, Calif.

## Artistic Agreement

I agree with Rep. Cliff Stearns of Florida (Big Issues, November). When times are tough, we should eliminate some of our spending. It's something we do here at home in Minnesota. I think funding for the National Endowment for the Arts should be eliminated, at least until our budget crisis is taken care of. Later the endowment funding can be reinstated.

Jim Reuther  
Montevideo, Minn.

## WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS

You can call THE AMERICAN LEGION magazine at:

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and record your opinions, vote on current issues, and listen to opinions of others. A magazine editor will listen to your message. Callers' opinions are considered for publication and receive a ☒ symbol when published.

Or you can write to:

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THE AMERICAN LEGION magazine welcomes letters to the editor concerning articles that appear in the

publication. Short letters are more likely to be published, and all letters are subject to editing for clarity and brevity. Volume precludes individual acknowledgments of comments on editorial content.

This month's question is:

• Should Congress approve the North American Free Trade Agreement? (See Page 10.)

Here's how you've voted in previous polls:

• Should Congress stop funding the National Endowment for the Arts?

Yes 85%	No 15%
Is the press too powerful?	
Yes 87%	No 13%

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## The Road To Rail

The article "Will Trains Ever Fly?" (November) leaves the impression that high-speed trains are the greatest thing since sliced bread and a cure-all for America's ills.

America has traditionally done things for the benefit of the majority of citizens, which is why high-speed rail hasn't been built. The quantity of patrons will not support the pay-as-you-go plan. Thus, high-speed train systems will only amount to a government subsidy, further breaking Americans' backs.

Chris E. Ena  
Santa Ana, Calif.

Not only is our automobile-driven economy causing gridlock on the highways, but we are destroying the very air we breathe. First, we should implement

Please turn page

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# U.S. ARMY COMMEMORATIVE .45

The first Commemorative .45 ever issued to honor the U.S. Army simultaneously marks the retirement of this beloved "Old Warhorse," the M1911A1 Pistol, after 75 years of stalwart service.



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If you were born between the late 1800s and 1968, it is the symbol of your time, your day, your age. And future Americans will look back on our time, with reverence, as the ".45 Era."

But now "Old Slabides" is retiring, from the battlefields, replaced by the new 9mm pistol, so we can fire the same ammo as our NATO Allies who don't have the more powerful .45.

How much longer will the .45 be made? No one knows. But while it is, we're proud to salute the Americans of the ".45 Era" by issuing a separate, firing, commemorative .45 in honor of each of the four American armed forces that carried it.

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The select burl walnut Herrett's grips gleam as you clearly see your reflection in the mirror-polished slide, receiver, and ten 24-karat gold plated parts. As a proper memorial to the Army, patriotic symbols and inscriptions are deeply etched and 24-karat gold plated across the slide. And your name or that of a family member can be engraved on the reverse along with other data, to make this gun a lasting, personal memorial.

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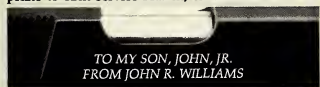
between 0001 and 1911, with the prefix "USA" for U.S. Army.

This is the military-model .45 M1911A1, and all parts are interchangeable with GI-issued guns. It is even fitted with a rare and desirable lanyard with gold-plated mounts. It fires .45 ACP ammo and could be called upon to defend your home and family.

Each pistol is built by the gunsmiths of Thompson/Auto-Ordnance, the company founded by General John T. Thompson, who developed the .45 autoloading cartridge, helped develop the .45 pistol and who invented the Thompson Submachine Gun. NRA test firings of their .45 show accuracy "significantly better than the average as issued M1911."

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a gas tax. Then we should develop short-range, mass-transit systems, such as "park and rides." Finally, we need to create the high-speed rail systems, as suggested in the article. Trains are quick and convenient, and the emission of unhealthy gases would be diminished.

Bernice N. Fishpaw  
De Land, Fla.

Steve Salerno's article "Will Trains Ever Fly?" (November) referred to France's TGV as "Trains of Great Speed." The correct nomenclature for the TGV is *Tres Grande Vitesse*, which translates as Very Great Speed, not Trains of Great Speed.

Paul A. Bernard Jr.  
Houston

ly expressed and emphasized the need to never forget our nation's veterans.

A copy of Munson's message should be sent to each member of Congress so they better understand the contributions and sacrifices made by our veterans and their families. This message should also be required reading for all college and high school students.

Neiland Cohen  
Milwaukee

National Commander Munson's article should have included a mention of the American Merchant Marine. This forgotten service made vital contributions to support our Armed Services worldwide.

Swan Swanson Jr.  
Mount Vernon, Wash.

## Magnificent Magazine

THE AMERICAN LEGION magazine has published many good articles about our American scene this year—values, homeless veterans, the POW/MIA debacle and many others. We subscribe to several well-known, prestigious magazines, but look forward to THE AMERICAN LEGION magazine more than the others.

Kittredge and Janet Haven  
Vergennes, Vt.

## Women Marines

The article "Women Sign Up" (December) contained an error. The article stated that the Women Marine Corps didn't begin until 1945, but it did. In fact, I was in the Women Marines 8th training class at Hunter College in New York after signing up in March 1943. I served from then until 1945. How about correcting this error to us old gals who did our duty and did it well?

Lois B. Reilly  
Chattanooga, Tenn.

## White Christmas

In the article "The Best Song Anybody Ever Wrote," (November) Michael Lasser failed to mention that Charlie Spivak and his orchestra recorded the first top-selling "White Christmas" for Columbia Records. This version featured Gary Stevens.

After Bing Crosby's version began to soar on the charts, Spivak's recording fell to second but remained the most popular big-band recording throughout the country. Spivak's "White Christmas" was the first to be featured on *The Lucky Strike Hit Parade* radio program.

Larry Kloess  
Montgomery, Ala.

## Medium Well Done

Stephen Hess should step out of the Brookings Institute and out of Washington, D.C., and get a better handle on his analysis of the influence of the media in government ("The Power of the Press," November). His statement that "it's amazing how poor reporters have been in gathering support for their favorites" is ludicrous!

The press is so adept at "gathering support" that most of the public doesn't even realize how it is being manipulated.

The support is gathered by the press selecting one-sided political cartoons;

Please turn to page 55



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## Command Response

National Commander Roger A. Munson's message, "What Should Be Said On Veterans Day?" (November) was very moving. His message correct-



# WHAT REMAINS OF THE POW/MIA ISSUE?

**S**ENATOR JOHN McCain of Arizona, a Vietnam veteran and former POW, got his flight helmet back from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, thanks to the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs.

McCain's helmet, along with thousands of photographs and a collection of U.S. Vietnam-era combat gear, appear to be all a \$1.9 million, 14-month investigation could pry from the communists in Vietnam.

In the words of committee Vice Chairman Sen. Robert C. Smith of New Hampshire, a Vietnam veteran, "It's nice to have Sen. McCain's helmet, but John McCain is home."

The committee's investigation of the POW/MIA issue both succeeded and failed.

It succeeded in establishing that the truth about our POW/MIAs has never been told, either by the U.S. government or by the Vietnamese.

It failed in that it discovered enough to prove we were living a lie, but it didn't uncover what the truth was.

The Legion applauds the committee for making unprecedented progress in declassifying POW/MIA documents and intelligence. More information is available today than ever before. But much more needs to be made public.

We were encouraged by the committee's ability to move the issue further into public view through a series of revealing hearings.

And the Legion was pleased that the committee took our recommendation and had the U.S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii (CIL-HI) investigated. In the past, CIL-HI has done a poor job in identifying remains. And despite new leadership, there is a long road ahead toward credibility.

If we compare what the committee accomplished with what it set out to do—mainly to determine if live POWs



*Nat'l Cmdr. Roger A. Munson*

were still captive in Southeast Asia, Russia, Korea or China—the investigation, overall, is disappointing.

Were there American POWs left behind in Southeast Asia after the Vietnam War? If so, why were they left behind and who left them there? Could any of these men still be alive?

For nearly 20 years, the U.S. government has answered these questions with one word: "No."

**T**HE committee only answered one of these questions: Americans were left behind. But who left them and whether or not they are alive today remains an open question.

Ambiguous signals gradually began to emerge from the committee indicating that the investigation had run its course. Some senators, it seemed, were content with the committee's accomplishments and were prepared to close the book on the POW/MIA investigation.

After returning from a trip to Vietnam, Sen. John F. Kerry of Massachusetts, the committee chairman, began calling for the U.S. economic embargo to be lifted before the probe was com-

pleted. He suggested that Vietnam be "rewarded" for its cooperation.

The committee is tasked with answering questions on the fate of our missing, not with making foreign policy. Why was Kerry overstepping his authority?

This was particularly disturbing in light of Garnett E. Bell's 1991 testimony. Bell, former chief of the U.S. Office for POW/MIA Affairs in Hanoi, testified that the U.S. government had "information of Americans being held" after Operation Homecoming—after all U.S. POWs were said to be returned.

Bell added that there was "hard evidence" that at least 10 Americans were left behind.

Former Defense Secretaries James R. Schlesinger and Melvin R. Laird supported Bell's testimony that Americans were left behind. Not only did the committee fail to determine if there are live U.S. POWs still in captivity, but it also failed to find out who left them there.

While none of these failures come as a surprise, there is a larger dilemma. What can be done today to prevent U.S. POWs from future abandonment?

THE AMERICAN LEGION magazine, as the lifeline to many of the nation's veterans, has chosen to take on this important challenge. In next month's issue, the magazine will publish a special investigation on what can be done to protect our POW/MIAs in future wars.

If these Senate hearings are taken as one step in the development of a new POW/MIA policy, then they should be considered a small success. They have both elevated the issue and ended some of the secrecy.

If, however, the committee's work is used to close the book on our POW/MIAs, then we have learned very little.

As a veteran and an American, I know that in the face of silence, indifference and hostility, the United States abandoned some of the men it sent into battle. And as a veteran and an American, I will not rest until I am certain it will never happen again. □

# Wings of Majesty



The Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge presents its first ever collector plate, "Wings of Majesty" by Ronald Van Ruyckevelt.

Wings outstretched, head held high, he soars. America's mighty symbol, the Bald Eagle, bringing a message of peace and liberty to people far and wide.

Appropriately, The Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, a non-profit organization dedicated to perpetuating the principles of freedom, has chosen this all-American subject and an all-American artist for its very first collector plate, "Wings of Majesty." Created from an original work by Ronald Van Ruyckevelt, whose compelling works are collected by some of the world's greatest leaders, it captures the unflinching spirit of American patriotism. In the tradition of the finest collectibles, this Limited Edition Collector Plate is crafted of fine porcelain, hand-numbered and bordered in 24 karat gold. The signature mark of the artist appears on the reverse side.

Priced at just \$29.50, this breathtaking Limited Edition will be closed forever after just 45 firing days. Available exclusively from The Franklin Mint, Franklin Center, PA 19091-0001.



Plate shown smaller than actual size of 8" (20.32 cm) in diameter.

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# SHOULD CONGRESS APPROVE THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT?

Rep. Jim Kolbe, (R-Arizona)

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) will create the largest and richest market in the world, encompassing 360 million consumers with an annual output of more than \$6 trillion.

NAFTA will build on our already impressive export growth to Mexico. In 1986, U.S. exports to Mexico totalled \$12 billion. The estimate for 1992 is \$44 billion. Every \$1 billion in U.S. exports creates some 22,000 American jobs. Roughly 600,000 Americans are producing exports for Mexico. That figure will grow to over 1 million under NAFTA.

Protectionist-minded congressmen have rallied behind two issues to justify voting against NAFTA. The first is potential job loss here at home. Every credible economic study on NAFTA indicates that it will be a win-win situation for all three countries. Mexico will gain additional jobs, but so will the United States, perhaps as many as a half million. It is also interesting to note that export-generating jobs pay 17 percent more than typical U.S. jobs.

In Erie, Pa., General Electric makes \$550 million worth of locomotive parts and power generators for Mexico. Caterpillar's exports of heavy equipment to Mexico doubled last year to \$365 million. In the medical supply industry, there was a 22 percent increase in sales to Mexico last year. The steel and textile industries enjoy a trade surplus with Mexico. Manufactured products exported to Mexico have soared to \$26.7 billion from \$10.4 billion in just a couple of years.

For those workers who will be negatively impacted by NAFTA, former-President George Bush proposed a \$670 million job-training program to assist dislocated workers.

NAFTA also includes provisions that maintain U.S. health, safety and environmental standards for Mexican imports; and it allows states and cities to enact even tougher standards. Mexico has taken impressive steps to clean up its environment. The government has permanently or temporarily closed more than 1,000 polluting businesses and has increased its enforcement budget from \$6.6 million to \$77 million annually.

Arizona exports almost \$1 billion in goods and services to Mexico. Roughly 20,000 Arizonans already depend on the Mexican market for their jobs and this figure will grow even larger as Arizona becomes a trading center for all of North America. ☐

## YES



Rep. Richard A. Gephardt, (D-Missouri)



## NO

The proposal to cut veterans' benefits is one of the trade-offs involved in the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) proposed by former President George Bush. Bush wanted to pay for new job training for workers who lose their jobs because of NAFTA by cutting veterans' benefits, Medicare, black-lung

benefits or transfer payments to the poor.

His Labor Secretary, Lynn Martin, told Congress she expected 150,000 Americans to lose their jobs as a consequence of lower trade barriers with Mexico. Other private estimates say the job loss could exceed 500,000.

Whichever figure is correct, we owe the people displaced by this trade agreement a chance to improve their skills. Achieving a close trade relationship between Mexico, Canada and the United States is a desirable goal. Unfortunately, the 2,000-page NAFTA is neither free nor fair.

The American automobile, energy and glass industries and American wine producers are disadvantaged by the Bush trade agreement. Their access to the Mexican market is blocked or unequal.

Equally important, with Mexican firms paying wages to their workers at rates one-tenth of the salaries paid by American firms to our workers, no provisions are in the agreement to keep American wages from being dragged down, or to keep American plants from moving their operations to Mexico.

The Bush administration proposed a job training program to address NAFTA-related worker adjustment. With each NAFTA dislocated worker eligible for \$3,000 in benefits, \$1.5 billion could be necessary to fund job retraining.

The Zenith workers who lost their jobs in Missouri or in other factories around the country don't want veterans' benefits cut to pay for their job retraining. Instead, these programs should be funded by a small, cross-border transaction tax on goods traded between the countries. The tax should be set at a rate lower than the existing 4 percent average border tariff.

The problems with the NAFTA can be solved. This must be our goal: A democratic and prosperous Mexico, tied to the United States through the benefits of fair trade, supported by all the people of the hemisphere, without hurting the American worker or veteran. ☐

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You can vote yes or no on this issue, receive a tally that includes your vote, record your opinions, and hear opinions of others.

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## Cuba A Priority

International and domestic pressures will make Cuba a top foreign policy priority for the new administration and could result in dramatic changes on the communist island.

Despite last fall's United Nations vote that urged lifting the 30-year trade embargo, President Bill Clinton is expected to fulfill a campaign promise to tighten the embargo. Clinton favors fully implementing the Cuba Democracy Act, prohibiting exports to Cuba by U.S. subsidiaries.

Clinton will also come under intense pressure to condition further U.S. aid to Russia on abandonment of Castro by the former Soviet Union. Foreign policy experts note that Russia still trades with Castro, continues construction of nuclear power plants there, and hasn't withdrawn from the Lourdes intelligence facility that spies on America.

## Marines Vs. Gays

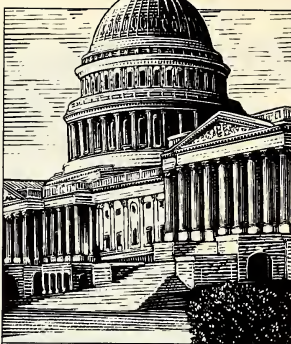
Any further unauthorized use of the Marine Corps emblem by AIDS or gay groups will prompt swift legal action. That's the word from Marine Corps headquarters, where the brass is outraged over the use of the Marine Corps eagle, globe and anchor in an advertisement for a "unifrom party" for homosexuals at a Washington, D.C., gay bar. The ad, asking for "a few good men," featured a topless gay man wearing the Marine hat and emblem.

In another case, an AIDS foundation ran an ad featuring a model with the Marine Corps emblem tattooed on his arm. The Marine Corps says the ads violate copyright and imply approval of homosexuality by the Corps.

## Animal Rights Targets

Some animal rights demonstrators are wearing only towels and waving banners that say, "I'd rather go naked than wear fur." But monitors of extremist groups say the violence-prone section of the movement could threaten more arson, vandalism and theft. Though not widely publicized, hundreds of violent incidents have been committed in the United States over the last decade, resulting in tens of millions of dollars worth of damage to facilities using animals in medical re-

*Washington-based Cliff Kincaid writes for Human Events and other publications.*



## WASHINGTON WATCH

*By Cliff Kincaid*

search, farming and ranching.

Despite passage of the Animal Enterprise Protection Act, a new law making it a crime to physically disrupt facilities using animals, security experts say research labs are once again a prime target, although farms and even pet stores could be raided by activists.

## FCC, NEA Changes?

The President's supporters in Hollywood and the arts community are counting on major changes at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Look for an FCC staff recommendation to abandon the decency standard for broadcasters, in the face of court challenges. Meanwhile, NEA insiders expect a reversal of rejected grant requests for three gay film festivals. The Christian Right will use the changes as a reason to mobilize its forces against the new President.

## A Questionable Source

Russian Gen. Dmitri Volkogonov's dramatic Veterans Day Senate testimony that no Americans were being held in Russia was thrown into doubt by his premature exoneration of Soviet espionage figure Alger Hiss.

But his much-publicized statement that he found no evidence that Hiss

spied for the Soviet Union 60 years ago was subsequently exposed as based on inadequate research. Under questioning, Volkogonov admitted that he did not personally review any files where the Hiss material would have been stored.

Volkogonov's expertise on POW/MIA affairs was already viewed with suspicion by some. The new book, *Soldiers of Misfortune*, accuses him of having "issued a false report" in March 1990 that said there was no evidence of U.S. POWs in the Soviet Union. Two years later, Russian President Yeltsin said there might have been.

## Business Vs. Clinton

The battle over a new Investment Tax Credit (ITC) will determine if relations between the Clinton administration and the business community get off to a good start. If the ITC is incremental rather than targeted, and temporary rather than permanent, U.S. industry leaders are prepared to publicly attack the administration's economic plan and warn of slow growth ahead. Business advocates argue that an effective ITC will spur investment and development, but critics say it will cost too much and increase the deficit.

## Trade Wars

Friction between the United States and Europe isn't the only lingering trade problem for the new President. Japanese officials are expected in Washington shortly after the inauguration to caution the Clinton administration against trade-war legislation. The Japanese are warning against revival of the "Super 301" clause of the Trade Act that imposes high tariffs on imports from Japan or any other country found to engage in unfair trade practices.

Most observers expect Clinton to avoid reactivating the "301" clause, preferring to try "managed trade" with Japan. However, they anticipate higher taxes on foreign companies operating in the United States, a crackdown on foreign lobbyists, and the appointment of Japan-bashers to his proposed Economic Security Council.

Meanwhile, Mexican officials have given up any hope of quickly implementing the new North American Free Trade Agreement because of Clinton's reservations about it. (See Big Issues, Page 10 for a debate about this agreement.) □

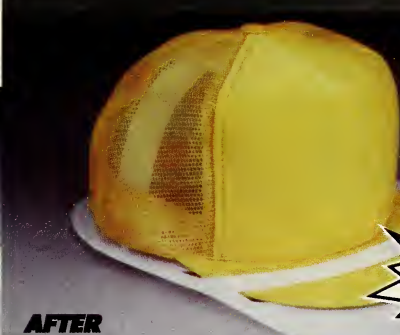
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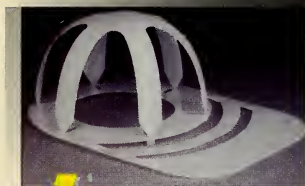


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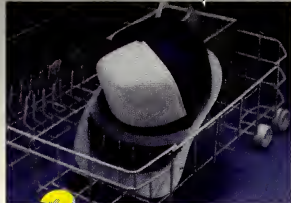
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# MANY FAITHS ONE GOAL



**FAITH IN VETERANS**—Pastor Robert Dutton, the Department of Connecticut Chaplain, center, and two other veterans lead hymn singing at Dutton's Jewett City, Conn., Baptist Church.

*O God, Creator of this good land, help us to be worthy of citizenship in our Nation. Bless our country with loyal people and dedicated leaders. Guard us from unlawful acts and cowardly fear. We also ask Thy blessing on the veterans of our Nation and grant that The American Legion may always do Thy will. Amen.*

—Prayer from The American Legion Chaplain's Prayer Manual

**W**HEN the Rev. Robert S. Dutton began his tenure as pastor of the Baptist Church in Jewett City, Conn., one of the first things he did was create a service specifically for Veterans Day.

Now four years old, the Veterans Day service is held the Sunday before Veterans Day, and emphasizes the importance of veterans and active-duty servicemen and women. Dutton, The American Legion Department of

Connecticut Chaplain for the past two years, says his sermon on that Sunday is about God, country and patriotism.

"I take care of the God part and the rest of the Legion takes care of the country," says Dutton, a WWII veteran and member of Post 200, Rocky Hill, Conn.

Dutton and other Legion chaplains are prominent on Memorial Day, Veterans Day and at all Legion meetings throughout the year. Their goal is to ensure that Legionnaires and all Americans never forget God is the source of all their rights and privileges. Legion chaplains accomplish this goal in a variety of ways, from conducting religious services, like Dutton, to visiting sick Legionnaires and other veterans in hospitals.

\*\*\*

This year, for example, National Chaplain Rev. James R. Wagner is urging Legion chaplains to give special emphasis to the 50th Anniversary of The Four Chaplains.

On Feb. 3, 1943, four Army chap-

lains, a Catholic, two Protestants and a rabbi, gave their lives to save others after their Army transport ship was hit with a U-boat torpedo. (See page XX for a story about the four chaplains.)

Wagner, pastor of the Forest Presbyterian Church and a member of Post 9, Forest, Miss., encourages Post and Department Chaplains to conduct services in honor of the chaplains on Four Chaplains Sunday, Feb. 7, the beginning of the Legion's Religious Emphasis Week.

\*\*\*

Meanwhile, many Legion chaplains will be performing their duties similar to William D. Chester, Department of Kentucky Chaplain. At least two times a week, Chester visits the Louisville VA Medical Center. He checks the patient list, especially making note of any hospitalized Legionnaires, and makes his rounds visiting sick veterans and comforting families.

One of the first things Chester does each morning is read the obituaries. He scans the lists for veterans, especially Legion members.

"Helping the families of the deceased and conducting a proper funeral service are the most important duties to me," says Chester, a Roman Catholic lay minister for St. Martha's Catholic Church in Louisville, Ky., and member of Post 201.

\*\*\*

Traveling more than 1,200 miles of Oklahoma road last year and already logging 600 this year, the Department of Oklahoma Chaplain Charles Horner attends as many Post and District meetings as possible.

In addition to providing the invocation at hundreds of meetings yearly, Horner, who's better known as "Chief," also earned the Department's Recruiter of the Year by preaching the Legion's word to 277 new members.

"I believe in talking to people on a one-to-one basis," says Horner, a member of Post 1 of Tulsa, Okla. "We need to try hard to reach the men who are down and out, and encourage them."

Part of the help Horner offers them is the Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program. TFA provides money for dependent children of veterans. Legion chaplains are frequently contacted about needy children of veterans who could use such assistance.

*Please turn to page 61*

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But what most people don't realize is that veterans never ate alone. Maybe it was a buddy whose rations were lost in combat or an orphan, begging on a dusty road to nowhere . . . we shared what we had. War has a way of teaching the virtue in being your brother's keeper.

So it's not surprising that last year Legionnaires spent over forty-eight million dollars helping others. From emergency aid for our fellow veterans to caring for orphans here at home . . . America is still counting on us. There are times when doing nothing is not an option.



**Renew your membership today  
. . . because doing nothing is not  
an option.**



# VIETNAM

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AFTER TET

## THE COUNTRYSIDE HAS FORGOTTEN WHAT MAN CANNOT.

Photos by Geoffrey Clifford

**T**HE SKY glows pink above the South China Sea. A stray balloon, escaped from some Tet new year reveler, catches the light as it drifts down the Perfume River. Already the aroma of holiday dishes cooking in earthen ovens is in the air.

Geoffrey Clifford, once an Army helicopter pilot based in Da Nang, Vietnam, and now a professional photographer, watches a farmer stroll toward a rice paddy that is round, instead of square like the others. The paddy was created from a bomb crater 25 years earlier.

"No one said a paddy had to be square," the farmer pragmatically explains.

Clifford is making his eighth trip to Vietnam since 1975. The face of Vietnam has not changed much since 1968, he says. War could not totally disfigure this beautiful country with its endless

# VIETNAM



▲ The  
Mekong  
peacefully  
flows to the  
China Sea,  
its waters ►  
nourishing  
a new  
Vietnamese  
generation  
with no  
memory of  
the war.

white beaches, plains of saw-edged elephant grass and dense jungles festooned with "pick-me-up, throw-me-down, hold-me-back" vines.

Visitors to Vietnam today need an experienced eye to spot the 105 and 155 shell casings, split and hammered flat to make roofs. The occasional shell-pock still marks stone and mortar walls. Denuded trees stand above the undergrowth where Agent Orange once spread its poisons. They are all that remain now—mute tokens of a war 25 years ago.

In the capital city of Hanoi, the fuselage of an American B-52 bomber protrudes from a lake, a silent memorial to those who forfeited their lives. Apparently, little or no bitterness remains. Recent visitors to Hanoi say the people are warm, friendly and charming.

About 300 miles to the south, in Hue, visitors see scattered buildings ravaged by shells and mortar-made craters where gardens once grew. These are the slow-healing scars where brutal fighting once took place.

To the northeast, near Khe Sanh, there is little evidence of the human sacrifice on Hill 881. Landing zones have been replaced by farms. The deadly whump of mortars and the manic chatter of automatic weapons have given way to the melodic laughter of children at play.



To the southeast are the famous in-country R&R centers—Vung Tau, China Beach and Red Beach. They are still favorite resort retreats, but instead of GIs, Japanese tourists and Australian and European business people flock to the sandy shores.

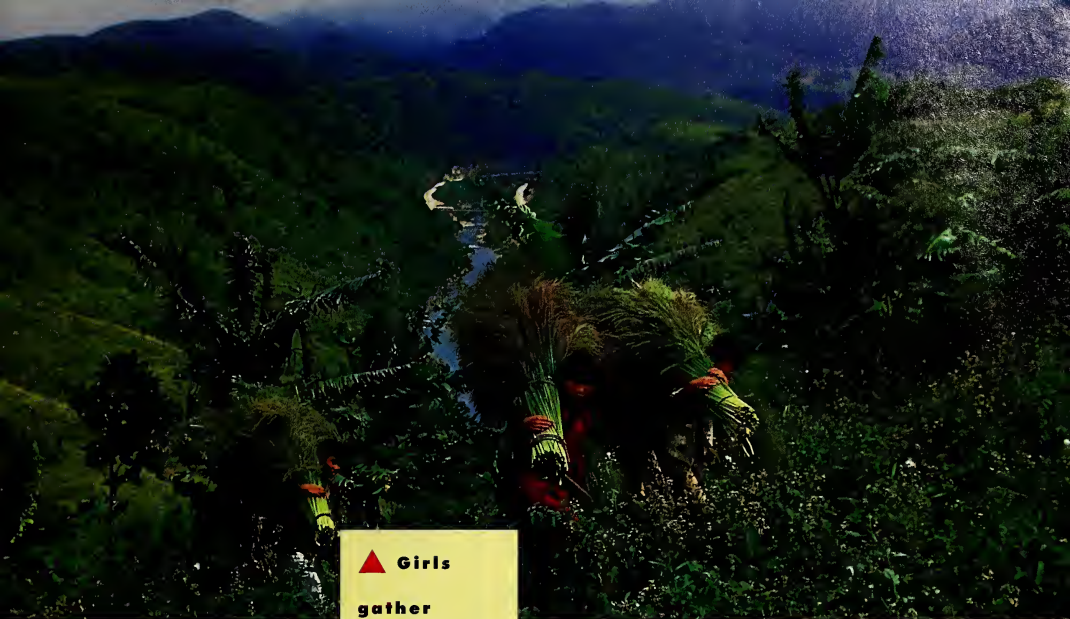
Only near Pleiku, Kontum and Dak To in the Central Highlands are the past and present not so far removed.

Here, Cambodian communist rebels, the Khmer Rouge, use the region as a staging area for guerrilla activities in

Cambodia. Here also, fighting still goes on between the Vietnamese government and its "ethnic minorities," the Montagnards.

Government officials warn visitors away from this area where the 173rd Airborne, the 1st Cav. and the 4th Inf. fought a quarter of a century ago in Tet Offensive battles.

In Saigon, now known as Ho Chi Minh City, ex-officers of the defeated Army of the Republic of Vietnam pedal bicycle taxis and former high-ranking



South Vietnamese officials hold menial jobs. When American visitors arrive, the Vietnamese are quick to ask either for money or to have their letters delivered to relatives in the States. Sometimes they boldly ask why they were abandoned.

Today, there is more than a trace of Occidental presence in Vietnam. An Australian floating casino is moored in Cam Ranh Bay. Resplendent hotels line Ho Chi Minh City's business district, masking the charred ruins of Cholon and other city sections gutted years earlier.

Oil derricks rise like prehistoric monsters off Vietnam's southern shores, sucking black treasure from beneath the surface of the warm sea while entrepreneurs dicker with officials over concessions that will bring much-needed foreign capital into the impoverished nation.

A sense of change is in the air. From Hanoi to the Mekong, balloons and brightly colored pennants fly as Tet begins. It has been a good year, or at least better than the past few. The harvest was ample, and foreign investment is once again adding piasters and dong to the economy. Except for the lone pocket of turmoil in the Central Highlands, Vietnam is at peace.

It will be a good Tet. ☐

By Ken Scharnberg

## ▲ Girls

gather

broom

stalks at

Khe Sanh.

The mood ►

is festive as

Tet begins.

And a U.S.

tank, a rare

relic of

Tet 1968,

stands ►

rusting and

abandoned

along

Highway 1.



# TET

**TWENTY-FIVE  
YEARS LATER**

The Tet Offensive, launched on Jan. 31, 1968, was repelled. But the political fallout divided America. Five writers take a look back.

## IN WASHINGTON: DEFEAT SNATCHED FROM VICTORY

By Harry G. Summers Jr.

**T**WENTY-FIVE years later the question still nags. How could American troops in Vietnam have turned back the enemy's 1968 Tet Offensive, while at the same time their Commander-in-Chief in Washington was so decisively defeated?

For the remaining seven years of the war, the Viet Cong guerrillas played no major battlefield role. But the impression of American defeat was so strong back home, that President Lyndon B.



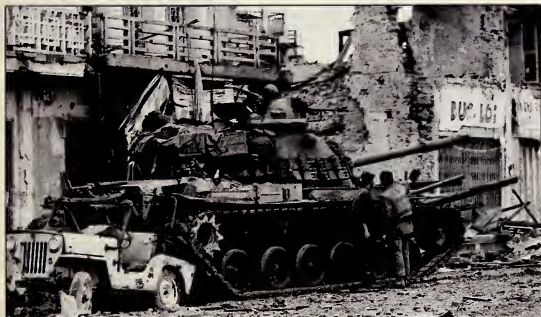
► **The Viet Cong even threatened the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. But with ► superior firepower and gutsy resolve, U.S. forces halted the Viet Cong.**





◀ **Marines fled Hue and would battle for 25 days to reclaim it.**

▼ **About 60 percent of the buildings in Hue were damaged in the fighting.**



Johnson gave up on the war and retired from public office.

Some still blame the press, but that won't wash.

In *Big Story*, a landmark examination of reporting on the Tet Offensive, Peter Braestrup argues persuasively that the real reason for the collapse in Washington was that President Lyndon Johnson had been "psychologically defeated."

But that begs the question, why?

In two previous wars, the United States had suffered far worse battlefield catastrophes—the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, for example, or the Chinese intervention in Korea. But while Presidents Roosevelt and Truman survived these much more serious military reversals, Johnson was overwhelmed by his relatively minor setback.

One reason is that Johnson's heart was not in the war to begin with. He saw both the war and the military itself as threats to his Great Society program. *Please turn to page 52*

*An infantry veteran of Korea and Vietnam, retired Army Col. Harry G. Summers Jr. is a military affairs columnist, editor of Vietnam magazine and author of On Strategy: A Critical Analysis of the Vietnam War.*

## IN THE FIELD: THE STALEMATE CONTINUES

By Ronald Spector

**I**N THE United States, the Tet Offensive had a major and irreversible impact on America's view of the war. The view from the battlefield was different.

The Tet Offensive was part of an 18-month series of North Vietnamese and Viet Cong offensives to break the stalemate that prevented them from uniting Vietnam.

*Ronald Spector served with the Marines in Vietnam in 1968-1969. He now is a professor of history and international relations at George Washington University in Washington, and author of the new book, After Tet: The Bloodiest Year in Vietnam.*

The offensives failed. The communists were in the same quagmire as the Americans and South Vietnamese. Neither side could break the other's hold.

When American troops first came in force to South Vietnam in the spring of 1965, their South Vietnamese allies were on the verge of defeat. By the end of 1966, the U.S. intervention had prevented that defeat and stabilized the military situation.

Yet, the communists showed no sign of quitting; they boasted they could hold their own against the Americans. Though both sides poured in more troops, the war seemed no closer to a conclusion.

So in the fall of 1967, the communists gambled on breaking the stalemate through a series of widespread, repeated attacks beginning with heavy fighting around Dak To in the Central Highlands. They called this long, costly campaign "the winter-spring offensives" of 1968 and 1969. And Tet wasn't the only deadly battle.

Indeed, more Americans were killed or wounded in the first week in May that year than in any other single week of the war. Similarly, many more Vietnamese could die in the prolonged communist attacks on Saigon in May and June 1968 than during the Tet fighting there.

By the end of 1968, both sides claimed to be winning the war. President Lyndon Johnson told President-elect Richard Nixon that the communists could do little more than "knock out a light bulb." And North Vietnamese General Vo Nguyen Giap declared the enemy was "sinking even deeper" and was "being attacked and encircled on all battle fields."

The winter-spring offensive of 1968-69 was a political success for the communists. It convinced almost all influential Americans that the war could not be won at an acceptable price or in an acceptable time.

Yet, on the battlefield, the communists had simply exchanged one stalemate for another. Not only had they suffered heavy losses, but they had no time to rebuild.

Hanoi strategists demanded more offensives through mid-1969. These battles resulted in crippling losses to the communists, especially to experienced Viet Cong units. The North Vietnamese could provide the manpower to make

*Please turn to page 52*

**TET**



## SOMEONE IS SCREAMING. IT'S YOU.

By Ken Scharnberg

**Y**OU ARE surprised to discover unconsciousness is no escape from pain. It lives with you, just inside the perimeter of your mind, nibbling away at your raw nerves like bluegill after fresh bait. You have discovered something—exploding metal is hot. Shrapnel not only tears flesh, it burns and continues to burn like a

white hot worm burrowing through your body.

There is a funny odor, almost a flavor, in the air. You recognize the coppery smell of fresh blood and torn flesh. When you open your eyes, the medic is crouching over you.

Someone is screaming and you wish they would shut up. Then you realize it's you, and you stop so suddenly that the medic leans closer to check your breathing. You wonder if this is what it feels like to die.

There is a sharp snap, the prick of the needle and you realize Doc's popped a vial of morphine. The pain doesn't really go away. It just lingers in the background. Doc gives you a thumbs up and moves on. For the first time you sense the firefight is not over.

You try to move, but your strength is gone. You lay there trying to get up, trying to find your M-16.

Your muddled brain recognizes the sounds of battle. The hollow fop of someone's M-79 grenade launcher, the brat of an M-60, the chitter of an M-16 switched to full rock 'n' roll. Then the

*Please turn to page 53*

*An assistant editor of this magazine, Ken Scharnberg earned a Purple Heart and Bronze Star with "V" during a Tet firefight while serving with the 173rd Airborne Brigade in the Central Highlands of Vietnam.*



◀ **The siege  
of Khe Sanh  
began  
January 20,  
and would  
not end until  
April 8.**

▼ **This  
shield was  
blasted off  
the U.S.  
Embassy in  
Saigon.**

## IN HANOI: INSIDE, LOOKING OUT

By Eugene "Red" McDaniel

**L**OCKED in a dingy cell in the Zoo Annex prisoner of war camp in Hanoi, my two cellmates and I had been looking forward to Tet, our first lunar new year celebration in captivity.

All three of us—Navy Lt.j.g. Bill Metzger, Air Force Capt. Bill Austin and I—had been shot down in 1967. We had heard from the "old hands"—the POWs who'd been there for earlier Tet celebrations—that we

Retired Navy Capt. Eugene "Red" McDaniel, a POW in North Vietnam for six years, is president of the American Defense Institute in Alexandria, Va.



could expect to get a good meal for Tet.

We'd probably get some real meat—some pork and gravy, maybe; some thick soup with vegetables, instead of the watery gruel that was our daily fare; a few sweet-meats; and a half-bottle of beer or an ounce of plum or rice wine.

We were hungry. We were losing weight at an alarming rate and, quartered as we were in the first cell just in

*Please turn to page 54*

## AT HOME: THE LEFT'S ANTI-WAR FOLLIES

By Peter Collier

**T**HE SPRING of 1968 was a moment of heady self-delusion and cruel fantasy for the anti-war movement.

Tet was the centerpiece of a hallucinatory series of events that seemed to forecast the fall not only of Saigon, but of America itself. The television images—plus Walter Cronkite's sonorous voice—gave us heart that our views were feeding into the mainstream.

Vietnam was, after all, a television war, and so when I think of Tet I remember those images. Wraith-like Viet Cong materializing suddenly in the heart of Saigon. Black-pajamaed bodies stacked like lumber after the shooting was over.

I remember thinking, *We've gotten inside the belly of the beast!* I flew a North Vietnamese flag in my window.

It didn't take long for the utopia we of the Left had predicted for Southeast Asia—once the United States was defeated—to reveal itself as a nightmare of tiger cages, boat people and political re-education camps. But by then, most of my comrades had forgotten about Vietnam and begun rowing, like some revolutionary cargo cult, toward the next apocalypse.

Largely because of the disproportionate statistics—more people killed in the first three years of the communist peace than in all 13 years of the anti-communist war—I stayed behind. In time I left the Left and began to oppose its cynical attempts to impose a fate like that which had befallen the Vietnamese and the people of Central America and elsewhere. But that is another story.

Ever since my old comrade Tom Hayden came back from his, first encounter with the Vietnamese in 1965,

*Please turn to page 54*

Peter Collier is co-author (with David Horowitz) of *Destructive Generation: Second Thoughts About The Sixties*, and editor of *Heterodoxy* magazine.

ENTER THE

WORLD OF

SIMULATED

REALITY

By Gurney Williams III

**T**HE VETERAN dons a white flight helmet and a black glove. Two small video screens inside the helmet flash a three-dimensional color view of a world that exists only in the magnetic core of a computer.

In an instant, the veteran begins his mission seated in a wheel chair traveling through computer-generated images of a one-bedroom condominium. His objective: to make sure architectural plans for the condo have sufficiently allowed for the needs of others, like him, who are disabled.

The magic of touring a place that doesn't yet exist is made possible by America's hottest new simulation technology. It's called virtual reality (VR), the computer creation of artificial (virtual) scenes that move and change depending on the user's head, hand or body movements.

In a laboratory at the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Hines Rehabilitation Research and Development

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*Gurney Williams III is a New York-based writer whose last article in this magazine, "Boys & Girls Together, Not!" appeared in the September 1992 issue.*

# VIRTUAL



Center near Chicago, dozens of disabled veterans are helping to break in the latest generation of illusion machines.

The predecessors of these machine date back as far as the Link simulators of World War II. But those rudimentary flight trainers, dwarf planes that banked and bucked, couldn't come close to offering what VR can: a powerful sense that you can interact with the illusion and with other people using the same "world" at the same time.

Imagine walking on Mars, watching your own feet crunch into the red dust, turning your head to see distant mountains or another astronaut—all without ever leaving earth.

Think of what it would be like to put on a helmet with 3-D goggles and practice an operation on a patient who ex-

**VIEW WITH A ROOM—A wheelchair-bound researcher "travels" through a computer-generated apartment, above, testing the floor plans for accessibility and safety. The next step is for astronauts to explore alien worlds, right, using virtual reality technology.**

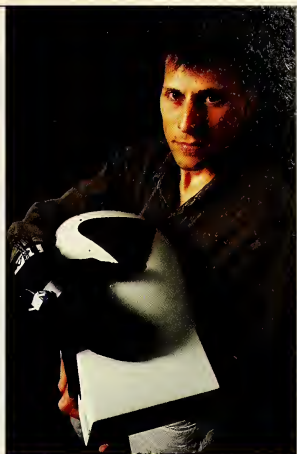
ists only in the computer.

Or picture flying through clouds of floating colored symbols that represent companies. You can watch them rise and fall, representing the vagaries of the stock market.

Those are just a few of the VR applications under development right now. Most depend on advanced computer gear that carefully tracks the position or movement of the user.

For example, the heart of the Hines system is the four-pound \$6,000 helmet

# REALITY



**TED MORRIS**  
Rehabilitation Research Engineer  
*Headware helps disabled*

made by Virtual Research in California. Every movement of this headware is picked up by an ultrasound tracker that's similar in principle to motion sensors used in home security systems.

A stream of motion data flows through cables to advanced computers using high-horsepower Intel 486 chips. When the wearer turns his head to the left, the view on the two 2.7-inch diagonal screens shifts to the right.

Another key piece of hardware at Hines is a raised platform with floor rollers that send signals to the computer system whenever they spin. Veterans ease their wheelchairs into a locked, stationary position over the rollers. The computer can sense rotation in the chair's wheels, and adjusts the scene as if the chair were actually moving.

The virtual scenes come from the two computers, one for each miniature screen. The pictures look similar to the cartoonish worlds in video games—not as realistic as the images in *Terminator 2* or *Lawnmower Man*. But to researchers, the simple condo is just as exciting.

The reason is that this apartment matches wall-for-wall the plans for a real condo, drawn by the Chicago architectural firm of OWP&P. So when the helmet wearer enters this world, it's like being inside an architect's model and testing out the design.

Research engineer Ted Morris at  
*Please turn to page 62*

PHOTOS BY DAVID SUTTON/PICTURE GROUP

# Art Linkletter's

## ART OF LIVING

*Ever since his youngest daughter experimented with LSD and took her life 23 years ago, Art Linkletter has been a tireless crusader against drugs, and has lectured and written about family values.*

**H**IS 80 years old, but talks more like a 20-year-old. His schedule would exhaust most NFL running backs. After eight decades, Art Linkletter is still a tireless crusader for America and its traditional values.

A television and radio personality for more than 45 years, Linkletter has starred in two of the longest running shows in broadcasting history. *House Party* was on CBS TV and radio five days a week for 25 years and won an Emmy for the best daytime TV show. *People are Funny*, his nighttime NBC TV and radio program, ran weekly for 19 years. It won three Emmy nominations and was consistently at the top of the ratings.

Linkletter has appeared in two major motion pictures, a half-dozen dramas and has written 23 books. His *Kids Say The Darndest Things* is one of the top 15 all-time best sellers in American publishing history.

In this interview with *THE AMERICAN LEGION* magazine, Linkletter candidly talks about the problems facing America's children, the family and older people.

**American Legion Magazine:** What activities are you involved in now?

**Art Linkletter:** My principal career for the last 22 years has been lecturing on the drug problem. My daughter, the youngest of my five children, experimented with LSD and took her life 23 years ago. At that point I determined to make her life mean something.



UNRETMANN

The way we are going to overcome the drug problem is through the family. It's the place where the mother and father can influence the use of drugs and the demand for drugs. Until you lower the demand for drugs, you will never be able to stop those weasels—the merchants of death—from selling them.

**Q.** You also are involved in other work, aren't you?

**A.** Yes, I also give lectures on developing self-confidence and self-esteem, which are really positive thinking. I also speak 30 or 40 times a year to large groups of senior Americans on how to fulfill themselves in the later retirement

years. Much of it is based on what I learned while writing my latest book, *Old Age Is Not For Sissies*.

**Q.** Getting back to children, what is at the root of their drug problem today?

**A.** The kids get too much, too soon, too easily without responsibility. They get it without the ability to handle the mature lives that are thrust upon them. Millions of children return home from school and both parents are away at work. The children let themselves into the homes, and all kinds of mischief can happen.

Because of divorces, separations and the need for everyone to work, the old extended family of uncles, aunts and grandparents has disappeared. No one is available to administer the discipline that would help the kids to resist the lure of drugs.

**Q.** Are we getting anywhere in licking the problem?



THE TOP MARKET

**THE RIGHT PATH—Seniors should take charge of their lives, Linkletter writes in his book, *Old Age Is Not For Sissies*.**

**A.** I believe we made great strides in the past five years among middle-class and upper middle-class America.

There is a measurable reduction in cocaine, LSD and marijuana use by high school and college kids.

Unfortunately, the problem still remains among the underprivileged and economically lower-class group. These kids are living on the edge of poverty where there appears to be no hope in sight. By the time they are 8 or 9, they turn to booze, cocaine and other things.

**Q.** Do you think that the government is effective in dealing with the drug problem?

**A.** I think it's very spotty. Too much money is spent trying to stop the drugs coming in. I believe the government must make more facilities available to treat addicts.

**Q.** Do you think legalizing drugs would help?

**A.** No, I am 100 percent against it. Whenever drugs are made more available, the problem has always gotten worse. To anyone who argues for it, my first question is, "Will it be legal for 16-year-olds, or 17-year-olds?" "Oh, no," they always say. But if it's legal for adults, do you think they are going to be concerned about the age of the people they sell the drugs to?

**Q.** How are the kids today different from the ones you

*Please turn to page 60*

## HIGHLIGHTS

### *Art Linkletter On...*

**The drug problem:** "Until you lower the demand for drugs, you will never be able to stop those weasels—the merchants of death—from selling them."

**Empowering seniors:** "Don't let anyone push you around, including your doctor."

**His endless energy:** "I exercise, watch what I eat and don't get overweight. I also work on my attitude and my mind so I don't get stressed out."

**America in decline:** "I don't believe it. As I travel through the United States I find honorable, decent people who are going to win out."

**Today's children:** "They become adults too fast because of the freedom they have. Their language is deplorable."

For more than 75 years, ROTC has put great military leaders through college and onto the battlefield. How will defense cuts affect this program?

By T. Douglas Donaldson

**O**N A HOT, sunny, late-September day on the Indiana University campus at Bloomington, 117 ROTC cadets stood at attention for one of the Army's oldest and most venerable traditions—the passing of the colors.

Lt. Col. James G. Kryway, a 25-year Army veteran who has taught ROTC at Indiana University for the past five years, was retiring and turning over his command to Lt. Col. Charles Osborne. For some freshmen cadets, this change of command ceremony was the first time they stood in formation, and their first good look at the military.

For the senior ROTC cadets trying to keep the freshmen in line, it was one of their last collegiate military ceremonies.

In the four years since those Indiana University senior cadets entered the program, ROTC has undergone massive changes not as clear cut as the passing of the colors. But these changes have had a great impact on those 117 Army ROTC Indiana University students and the other 60,000 students enrolled in ROTC nationwide.

The end of the Cold War ushered changes for the U.S. military, and like their parent services, the Army, Air Force and Navy ROTCs are downsizing.

"It's directly related. As strengths go down, the requirement for ROTC goes down proportionately," explains retired Army Lt. Gen. Richard L. West, director of the Association of the U.S. Army In-

*T. Douglas Donaldson is an assistant editor of this magazine.*



ARMY

# ROTC CUT TO THE CORPS

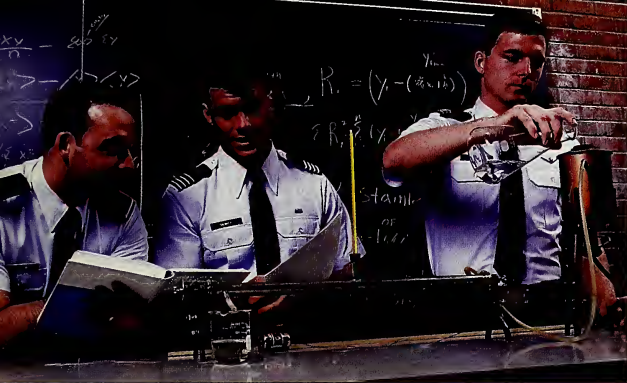
stitute of Land Warfare in Arlington, Va.

However, smaller means better for ROTC programs.

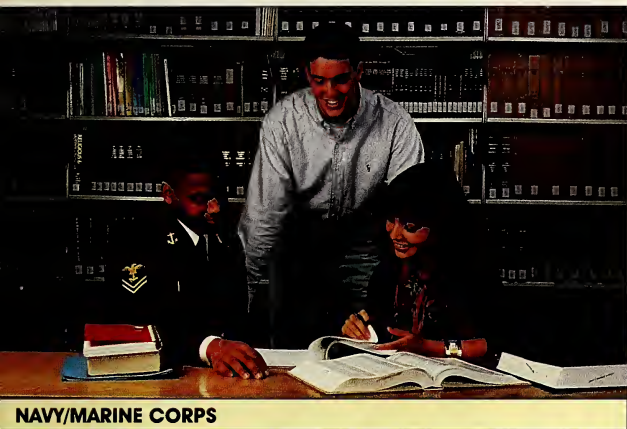
"We have a chance to be more selective," Army ROTC's commanding general, Maj. Gen. Wallace C. Arnold, told THE AMERICAN LEGION magazine. "We are now able to provide our forces a much better trained young man or young woman to be a new leader in our Army."

Each of the ROTC commands say that budgetary belt-tightening has allowed them to select only the best of the best. Today's ROTC students were high school class presidents, athletic team captains and valedictorians.

"It's like night and day," says Maj. Ronald D. Thompson, assistant professor of military science at Indiana University. "ROTC is much better than in the '70s. Today's cadets are intelligent,



## AIR FORCE



## NAVY/MARINE CORPS

motivated and they're better prepared."

ROTC standards have not been raised, but the competition for a decreasing number of scholarships is fierce. In 1987, all services offered 19,716 ROTC scholarships. But in 1991, only 14,989 scholarships were awarded—a 24 percent decrease.

ROTC commanders credit today's competitive scholarships with ROTC's growing ranks of top-notch students.

In addition to reducing the number of scholarships, the Pentagon dealt with defense cuts by trimming the number of students entering ROTC, and combined or eliminated ROTC units at some schools.

Air Force ROTC, the largest of the three ROTC programs, reduced the number of its graduating officers by 28 percent, from 7,766 in 1988 to 5,583 in 1991. The cuts were made by reducing the size of freshman classes and the

number of scholarships.

For example, the Army ROTC at the University of Texas at Austin had 200 cadets three years ago. By lowering the number of successive freshman classes, the cadet corps now numbers 75.

The Army also closed the program at 62 college campuses between 1990 and 1991, reducing the number of schools offering Army ROTC to about 1,000. Also, the Army ROTC faculty has been cut by more than 14 percent. From 1991 to 1992, 333 faculty positions out of 2,316 were eliminated.

Though the Army completed most of this on-campus ROTC downsizing about two years ago, more drastic cuts still had to be made.

In 1990, the Army was so overloaded with future officers from ROTC that it released 1,145 non-scholarship ROTC students from their active-duty commitment. It also placed 4,150 ROTC

**CITIZEN SOLDIERS**—Like other college students, ROTC cadets are swamped with the usual midterms and research papers. But their life on campus is made somewhat more hectic by 5 a.m. physical training drills that include five-mile marches.

graduates on Individual Ready Reserve. This meant they were de facto minutemen, officers without an opportunity for further training and without a Reserve or National Guard unit to call home.

Like the Army, the Air Force also released cadets from their military obligation as part of its downsizing. Since 1987, the Air Force's Voluntary Disenrollment Program has released 949 students from their service commitment. Scholarship students volunteering to be dropped from the program must reimburse the government for any money they received as cadets.

**A**CCORDING to the Government Accounting Office, the Air Force has lost more than \$36 million in training investments by releasing AFROTC students.

Instead of releasing students from their military obligation, the Navy, which also supplies the Marines with officers, made sweeping, across-the-board cuts in its ROTC program to contend with the downsizing.

"I keep a close eye on what happens to the Navy budget, because what happens to the Navy happens to Navy ROTC," Vice Adm. John H. Fetterman Jr., chief of Naval Education and Training, said in an interview before his retirement in July.

The Navy reduced the number of scholarships it offered in 1991 by more than 50 percent—from 2,488 in 1987 to 1,116. In addition, the Navy that year also cut five NROTC units out of its 66; cancelled 68 NROTC cross-town agreements, which allow students at schools without NROTC programs to commute to schools that do have programs; and combined 16 units into eight.

Like the other services, these reductions were made by eliminating freshmen from programs already slated to be cut.

Despite the downsizing, ROTC students nationwide appear confident about a career in the military.

"To be sure I receive an active-duty  
*Please turn to page 58*

# The Plots THICKEN

By Don Oldenburg

**W**AS THE Jonestown massacre, as some suspect, actually a grim CIA experiment in biological genocide?

Has the outcome of every presidential election since Watergate been manipulated by a secret society of the world's richest industrialists?

Is humanity but a slave race herded on this grazing planet by superior aliens from another galaxy?

Is rock 'n' roll mind-control music?

Without dismissing all these theories as fiction, or claptrap from the lunatic fringe, the fact is that seemingly rational people hold such convictions. And they are just as earnest as the majority of Americans who, according to pollsters, cannot accept that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in assassinating President John F. Kennedy.

William B. and Virginia Davis Edwards are among those Americans who believe conspiracy is around every corner.

"Without even apprehending or comprehending the nature of what's going on, you turn over a stone and see the maggots," says Edwards.

Since 1968, he and his wife have pieced together an elaborate puzzle of greed and lust for power. They are convinced they have uncovered an international conspiracy that has masterminded every significant event, war, assassi-

Washington Post reporter Don Oldenburg's last story for this magazine, "Revitalizing Democracy," appeared in the October 1990 issue.

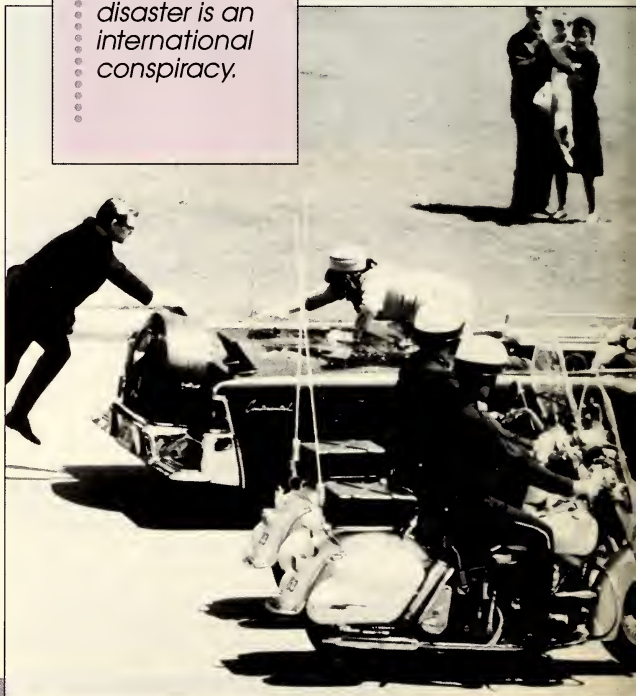
Some people believe that lurking behind every war, assassination, scandal and unnatural disaster is an international conspiracy.

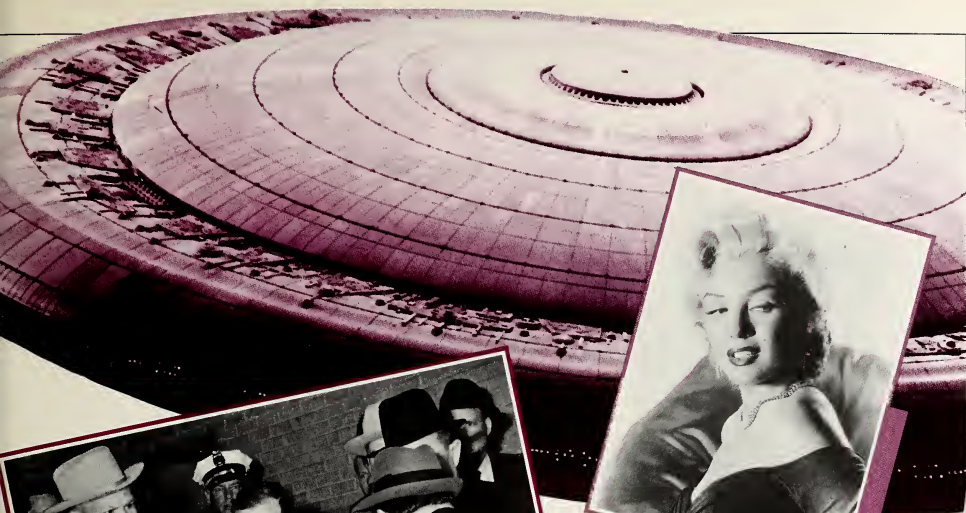
nation, scandal and unnatural disaster of our times.

An articulate man with an encyclopedic mind, Edwards believes he knows who really killed John F. Kennedy—and why. What's behind the Bank of Credit and Commerce International scandal is no mystery to him. He can speak fluently on lost Nazi gold bullion smuggled into the United States and the hidden truth about Watergate. And he knows only too well the sinister reasons for European royalty owning large tracts of land in the craggy mountainsides near his home in rural Virginia.

The Edwards are not alone. At a time when the course of modern society seems off-kilter and the nation is under siege by drug use, crime and disease, more and more Americans believe they are entangled in a web of intrigue beyond their control.

Since the 1991 release of the controversial film, *JFK*, the circulation of a little-known Cincinnati monthly called *Criminal Politics* has leaped to 30,000. The magazine's mission: To track the maze of activity of the Trilateral Combine, a New York-based economic





**CONSPIRACY COLLAGE**—*The JFK movie, bottom photo, rekindled the question of who killed Kennedy. Did Lee Harvey Oswald, left, act alone? Some say Marilyn Monroe, above, died because she knew too much. And did aliens, top, really abduct Elvis?*

council founded by David Rockefeller. Many conspiracy theorists allege that the council orchestrates world events to eliminate national boundaries and to create one despotic world government.

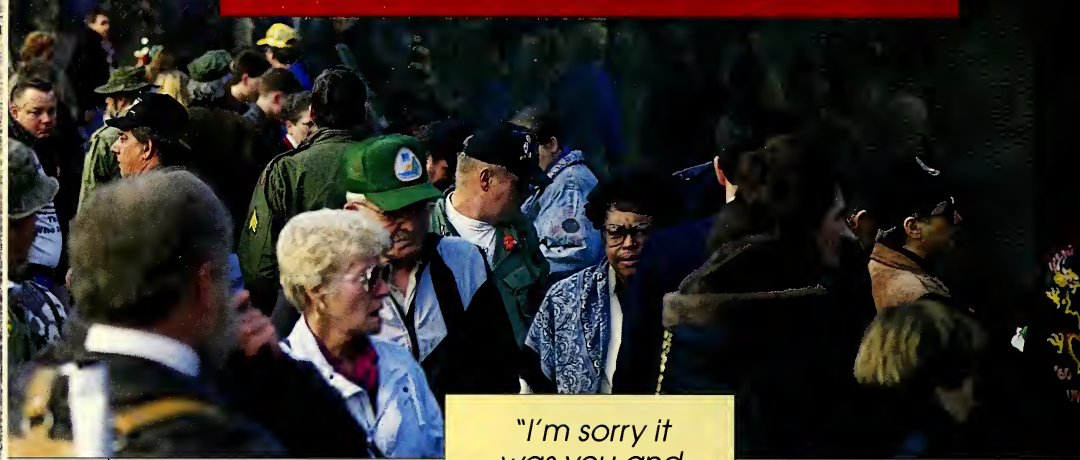
"*JFK* awakened the American public," says Lawrence Patterson, publisher of *Criminal Politics*. "Ten million people saw that movie...a massive public opinion. And the overall thrust [of it] was 100 percent accurate—government involvement in organizing the assassination was proven."

There is an undeniable logic to many conspiracy theories. Typically, today's headlines provide compelling bits of evidence that appear to substantiate the worst fears and the most diabolic schemes.

Patterson, for instance, mentions the Iran-Contra investigations as one of the reasons why George Bush, once considered by some to be the quintessential Trilateral President, wasn't re-elected President.

"They couldn't get another four years  
*Please turn to page 56*

# WHY THEY CAME



*"I'm sorry it  
was you and  
not me, Willie.  
Semper Fi."  
—From a note  
left at  
The Wall.*

.....

**I**T TOOK Vietnam-era veteran Phil Priore of East Haven, Conn., 17 years to say goodbye. But somehow he found the strength among the 35,000 veterans who were attending the 10th Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

"It's good to come here with guys who understand what it's like to lose someone," Priore said. "I came here to say goodbye to my friend. I can speak to him here."

In the presence of The Wall, there is a sense that the living can communicate with the dead. "It's like they really aren't dead. They just live here now," said Vietnam veteran Earl Gleason of American Legion Post 355, Penn Yan, N.Y.

Nowhere else can bikers and business executives, blue collars and white collars, children and old men speak the same language. And there is no other place where silence says so much.

Emerging from the silence that encases The Wall like a protective shield, one can hear whispers of prayer, and the sound of guys patting each other on

the back. "Welcome home, brother," is what total strangers say in the presence of "America's most honored piece of stone."

"For many Vietnam veterans, The Wall was the first sign that America was glad to have them home," said Vietnam veteran Robert W. Spanogle, National Adjutant of The American Legion. "It was an important step for our country—to say 'thank you' to the men and women who served in Vietnam."

The wall of denial that has kept so many Vietnam veterans from coming to grips with the war, seems to be breaking down. "And in its place, a constant reminder of the young men and women who served in America's most divisive war has arisen," Spanogle said.

**PILGRIMAGE**—On the 10th anniversary of The Wall, 35,000 people came to honor America's fallen heroes.

The sharp divisions that rocked the nation during Vietnam resurfaced when the Vietnam Veterans Memorial project began.

"I think it's safe to say that if it wasn't for Bob Spanogle and The American Legion, The Wall wouldn't be here," said Charles T. Hagel, chairman of The Wall's 10th Anniversary Committee. "When the current design of The Wall was called into question, both Spanogle [then executive director of the Legion's Washington Office] and myself [then deputy administrator of VA] were told we would get fired if we didn't back down."

"But we held our ground and just look at the results...."

Today, 25 million visitors later, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., located near the Lincoln Memorial, has become one of the most visited sites in the country.

"A lot of the bad reputation associated with those who fought in Vietnam is disappearing, and The Wall is part of that healing," said retired Army Col.



Betty Antila, a Vietnam veteran. "I came to honor these men and women."

"Vietnam veterans are no longer looked at as outcasts," added Post 355's Gleason. "It seems that The Wall has brought out an acceptance of what we stood for. We did what we had to do and came home."

For many veterans, a visit to The Wall is a pilgrimage, a holy journey to get as close to memories as possible and then let them go. But the war is never far away.

"I am still bothered by the sound of helicopters," said retired Army Lt. Col. P. Evangeline Jamison, as a chopper flew over the future site of the Vietnam Women's Memorial, 300 feet from The Wall.

"I remember wounded GIs, blood and pain. I remember courage and I remember sacrifice," said Jamison, an Army nurse in



**WELCOME HOME!**—One embrace at a time, the wall of denial that has kept so many Vietnam veterans from coming to grips with the war is being torn down.

**REACHING**—He came here to say goodbye to a friend. He can speak to him here, at The Wall.

World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

As Jamison spoke of sacrifice, a man in a business suit was dropped off at The Wall by a Yellow Cab. Yellow Cabs, like this one, were at times used to deliver telegrams announcing a service person's death to the family. Some who would remember probably took notice.

"There is still suffering and pain out there," said Hagel, a Vietnam combat veteran and a Legionnaire from Post 84, Columbus, Neb. "The Wall has helped this country come a long way toward recognizing the contributions of Vietnam veterans."

Those who have touched death and felt its chill, its humbling emotional

PHOTOS BY ROSE CHANDLER/ARTIST GROUP



**AWAKENING**—The Leatherneck Marine Pipe and Drum Band of West Orange, N.J. honors those who died in the war.

vacuum, discover that The Wall is like a rift in time, through which two universes touch.

There, and only there, families and friends can reach out their hands and feel the essence of the 58,183 individuals whose names are inscribed on The Wall. There, and only there, gifts can be passed from this world to what lies beyond.

For example, on the morning that



**FOREVER**—A symbol of undying love, these roses are among the 25,000 items left at The Wall since 1982.

marked the 10th anniversary of the memorial, someone placed The Medal of Honor at the base of The Wall. It was the second time the nation's highest military honor was surrendered to fallen heroes from the war.

More than 25,000 items have been left at The Wall, including wedding rings, teddy bears, combat boots, photographs, love letters and ammunition. Today, a collection of these gifts comprises an exhibit called "Personal Legacy: The Healing of a Nation" at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. The exhibit will remain on display through June 7, 1993.

Twelve-year-old Vickie Lynn Smith of Norwood, Ohio, left a poem as a tribute to Vietnam veterans on The Wall's 10th anniversary. Vietnam veterans, she wrote, "never forgot what America stood for."

But during the Vietnam War, many forgot.

"Women were certainly willing to fight for America," said Diane Carlson Evans, founder and chairman of the Vietnam Women's Memorial Project. "At a time when joining the military was unpopular, 265,000 women volunteered to support our troops in Vietnam—10,000 served in-country."

One day after the 10th anniversary of The Wall was commemorated, a plaque was placed on the ground where the Vietnam Women's Memorial will stand this coming Veterans Day. On that day, both the men and the women

who served in Vietnam will have a monument that welcomes them home.

"This is a beginning for the American people," said Jamison, at the future site of the Vietnam Women's Memorial. "It is a first step in recognizing those who fought in Vietnam—all the people—men and women."

"We stood for them then; we need them to stand for us now." □

*By Miles Z. Epstein*



**LEGACY**—Nat'l. Adj. Robert W. Spanogle, a Vietnam veteran, honors those who died by reading aloud their names.



Watering chores, water bills! Sweating behind a roaring mower!  
Spraying poison chemicals and digging weeds...



...you can end such lawn drudgery—here's how!

Mow your zoysia lawn once a month—or less! It rewards you with weed-free beauty all summer long.

# 7 Ways Your Zoysia Grass Lawn Saves You Time, Work, and Money!

## 1 CUTS WATER BILLS AND MOWING AS MUCH AS 2/3

Would you believe a lawn could be perfect when watered just once? In Iowa, the state's biggest Men's Garden club picked a zoysia lawn as "top lawn"—nearly perfect." Yet, this lawn had been watered only once all summer to August!

In PA, Mrs. M.R. Mitter wrote "I've never watered it, only when I put the plugs in... Last summer we had it mowed 2 times... When everybody's lawns here are brown from drought, ours stays as green as ever." *That's how zoysia lawns cut water bills and mowing! Now read on!*

## 2 ENDS RE-SEEDING NEVER NEEDS REPLACEMENT

Plug in our zoysia grass and you'll never have to spend money on grass seed again! Since you won't be buying seeds, you won't need to dig and rake—then hope the seeds take root before birds eat them or the next hard rain washes them away.

## 3 NO NEED TO DIG UP OLD GRASS

Plant Amazoy in old lawn, new ground, whatever. Set plugs into holes in the soil 1 foot apart, checkerboard style. Plugs spread to drive out old, unwanted growth, weeds included. Easy instructions with your order. If you can put a cork into a bottle, you can plug in Amazoy.

## 4 FOR SLOPES, PLAY AREAS, AND BARE SPOTS

You can't beat Amazoy as the low cost answer for hard-to-cover spots, play-worn areas, or to end erosion on slopes.

### Endless Supply of Plug Transplants

Transplant plugs from established Amazoy as you desire—plugged area grows over to provide all the plugs you'll ever need.

## FREE! Patented Step-on Plugger with orders of 600 plugs or more.

Starting your lawn is easy with this sturdy, 2-way plugger. Cuts away unwanted growth as it digs holes for plugs. Saves bending, time, work. Invaluable transplant tool.

## 5 IT STAYS GREEN IN SPITE OF HEAT AND DROUGHT

"The hotter it gets, the better it grows!" Plug-in zoysia thrives in blistering heat, yet it won't winter kill to 30° below zero. It just goes off its green color after killing frosts, begins regaining its green color as temps. in the spring are consistently warm. Of course, this varies with climate.

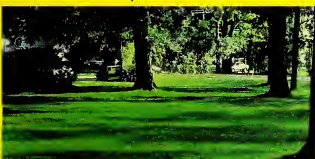
## 6 NO NEED TO SPEND MONEY ON DANGEROUS CHEMICALS

Since zoysia lawns resist insects AND diseases, you avoid the risk of exposing your family or pets to weedkillers and pesticide poisons. Plug in Amazoy and save the money, avoid the risks!

## 7 CHOKES OUT CRABGRASS AND WEEDS ALL SUMMER

Your established Amazoy lawn grows so thick, it simply stops crabgrass and summer weeds from germinating!

Thrives from part shade to full sun.



## FREE! Up To 900 PLUGS If You Order NOW!

### Every Plug GUARANTEED TO GROW IN YOUR SOIL No Ifs, Ands Or Buts!

Read a guarantee no grass seed can match!

Won't Winter Kill. Amazoy has survived temperatures to 30° below zero!

Won't Heat Kill. When other grasses burn out in summer drought and heat, Amazoy remains luxuriously green.

*Any plug failing to grow in 45 days will be replaced FREE!* To insure maximum freshness and viability, plugs are shipped not cut all the way through. Before planting, finish the separation with shears or knife. Our guarantee and planting method are your assurance of lawn success backed by more than three decades of specialized lawn experience!

Meyer Z-52 Zoysia Grass was perfected by U.S. Govt., released in cooperation with U.S. Golf Association as a superior grass.

Order guaranteed Amazoy now, get your bonus plugs FREE. Your order will be delivered at earliest correct time for planting in your area.

We ship all orders the same day plugs are packed, shipping and handling charges collect via most reliable means. For credit card orders shipping and handling costs will be added to your account.

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General Offices & Store  
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Taneytown, MD 21787

Please send me guaranteed Amazoy as checked below:

<input type="checkbox"/> 100 PLUGS Plus 20 FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 100 PLUGS Plus 30 FREE with Plugger	<input type="checkbox"/> 300 PLUGS Plus 60 FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 300 PLUGS Plus 90 FREE with Plugger
<b>\$595</b>	<b>\$995</b>	<b>\$1295</b>	<b>\$1695</b>
Total 120 Plugs	Total 130 Plugs Plus Plugger	Total 360 Plugs	Total 390 Plugs Plus Plugger
<input type="checkbox"/> 600 PLUGS Plus 180 FREE with FREE Plugger	<input type="checkbox"/> 1500 PLUGS Plus 450 FREE with FREE Plugger	<b>SPECIAL OFFER!</b>	
<b>\$2595</b>	<b>\$4995</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 3000 PLUGS Plus 900 FREE with FREE Plugger	
Total 780 Plugs Plus Plugger	Total 1950 Plugs Plus Plugger	<b>\$6995</b>	
		Total 3900 Plugs Plus Plugger	

☐ Additional Plugger **\$695** Md. residents add 5% sales tax.

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Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

More than 3 decades of experience.

## SOME RESERVISTS NOW CAN GET VA HOME

**V**ETERANS with at least six years in the Selected Reserve are now eligible for VA home loans. Reservists who participate in the home loan program will be required to pay a 2 percent funding fee on their loan.

This is one of a number of changes to make VA home loans available to more veterans, under the Veterans Home Loan Program Amendments of 1992.

The law also authorizes a three-year pilot program for VA to participate in

adjustable rate mortgages (ARM). ARM interest rates fluctuate according to the mortgage money market. The change should make buying a home more affordable to many veterans. The initial interest rate on an ARM is lower than the interest charged on a fixed-rate mortgage. ARM rates may increase during the life of the mortgage.

VA ARMs are limited to a 1 percent increase per year and a total increase of no more than 5 percent during the lifetime of the loan.

Another major change permits veter-

ans to negotiate the interest rate of their loan with lenders. Previously, VA set the interest rate that could be charged on a VA home loan. This often discouraged lenders from granting VA loans because the rate usually was lower than those for conventional mortgages.

The new law allows veterans to increase their VA loan to cover energy-efficient improvements. It also cuts the funding fee from 1.25 percent to 0.5 percent for veterans who refinance their home loans to reduce the interest rate on their mortgage.

### Cemetery Fraud

Burial scams targeting veterans are on the increase, according to Alan Clark, director of the National Cemetery System (NCS), who warns veterans to beware of misleading advertising. To avoid being ripped off, Clark suggests seven questions a veteran should ask before making any burial decisions:

- If an ad offers a free gravesite, ask if there is a requirement to purchase an additional gravesite.
- If an additional gravesite is required, ask how much it costs and where it is located.
- What type of trust fund does the cemetery maintain to protect the buyer?
- What kind of restrictions are there for grave markers or headstones?
- Are there extra charges for placement, care or setting the marker or headstone?
- Is a vault or grave liner required, and what is the cost?
- Will the company provide you with a written statement of its offer?

Clark advises veterans to be wary of cemetery deals that seem too good to be true. Know what you are receiving and get it in writing, he says.

### POW Flag Flies

"You are not forgotten," is the message of least two states concerning POW/MIAs. City, county and state offices in New Mexico are now required to fly the official POW/MIA flag on legal public holidays. The law, passed in

the state legislature, and backed by Legionnaires, went into effect Jan. 1, 1993. The legislation was spearheaded by state Sen. Steven Stoddard, a member of Post 90, Los Alamos, N.M.

Although not a legal requirement, Virginia's legislature also has passed a bill urging state, county and city buildings to fly the POW/MIA flag.

POW/MIA flags are available from The American Legion National Emblem Sales, P.O. Box 1050, Indianapolis, IN 46206, or telephone (317) 635-8411.

### Retirement Homes

Eligible veterans now can live at the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home (US-SAH) or the U.S. Naval Home (USNH), regardless of their branch of service. A change in the law has brought both homes under the same congressional umbrella for funding. The result is that residency is no longer restricted to Army and Air Force personnel for US-SAH in Washington, D.C., and to Navy and Marine veterans for USNH in Gulfport, Miss.

Admission to the homes is restricted to veterans who served as enlisted personnel for at least half their active duty years and who are, in order of priority:

- Military retirees with at least 20 years of active duty who are at least 60 years old;
- Veterans who are unable to earn a livelihood due to a service-connected disability;
- Veterans who served in a combat

area or received hostile fire pay and whose nonservice-connected disability prevents them from earning a living.

Both facilities are partially funded by a 50 cent per month deduction from active duty service pay and from fines and forfeitures collected from court-martial and other disciplinary actions.

The monthly cost for residents is 25 percent of any federal pensions, including Social Security and military retirement. Both male and female veterans are eligible. Veterans' spouses cannot become residents of the homes unless they also meet the eligibility requirements.

For further information, call the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home, (800) 422-9988, or the U.S. Navy Home, (800) 322-3527.

### Veterans' Business Loans

As many as 200,000 veterans could go into business for themselves during the next five years, if Congress approves a VA proposal for a small business guaranteed loan program.

The proposal would allow VA to guarantee up to 50 percent of a business loan for land, equipment and other business expenses over the next five years. The maximum loan amount would be \$100,000.

VA says the program could generate 200,000 loans and a million jobs. Money for the program would come from a 2 percent funding fee paid by borrowers and a 2 percent loan guarantee fee paid by borrowers or lenders. □

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## THE GOLDEN EAGLE RING

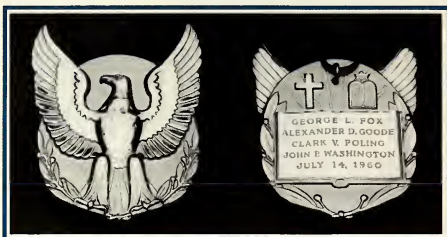
## Legion Honors Four Chaplains At Dedication

**F**IFTY years ago, four Army chaplains stood together praying on the deck of the sinking Army transport ship *Dorchester*, as they faced certain death in the North Atlantic ocean.

This month, the faith and courage of those chaplains will be commemorated by the Chapel of Four Chaplains and The American Legion. On Feb. 1-2, National Commander Roger A. Munson and other Legion officials are scheduled to participate in a memorial service and dedication of the grounds for the new chapel at Valley Forge, Pa. Other 50th anniversary events include a banquet and a reunion for survivors and family members of victims.

"There is, perhaps, no better example of faith, and love of fellow man, than the actions of the four chaplains on that winter night," says Munson.

On Feb. 3, 1943, the *Dorchester* was traveling a route stretching from Newfoundland to Greenland, a frequent U-boat hunting ground. At 12:55 a.m., a German torpedo struck the *Dorchester's* starboard side,



**ABOVE AND BEYOND**—The chaplains posthumously received this special Medal for Valor for their actions aboard the Army transport ship *Dorchester* on Feb. 3, 1943.

amidships. Hundreds among the 902 men aboard were killed instantly.

Many soldiers on the *Dorchester* weren't wearing lifejackets because of the heat below decks. Those who survived the torpedo blast scrambled for lifejackets. Others crowded into lifeboats.

The four chaplains directed the frightened men to lifeboats and passed out lifejackets. When all the lifejackets were gone, the chaplains gave theirs.

The converted coastal steamer sank in 27 minutes. Only 230 survived, but there would have been more casualties had it not been for the chaplains.

The chaplains were 1st Lt. Alexander D. Goode, 31, a Jewish rabbi from York, Pa.; 1st Lt. George L. Fox, 43, a Methodist minister from Gilman, Vt.; 1st Lt. Clark V. Poling, 32, a minister of the Reformed Church in America, from Schenectady, N.Y.; and 1st Lt. John P. Washington, 34, a Roman Catholic priest from Arlington, N.J.

Fox, a WWI veteran, was also a Legionnaire. While serving as a minister in Gilman and East Concord, Vt., he joined Post 41 of Gilman. In addition, Fox was Department of Vermont Historian and Department Chaplain.

Survivors near the ship said they saw the chaplains holding hands and pray-

ing as the ship gradually dropped below the surface.

Each chaplain was posthumously awarded a Purple Heart, Distinguished Service Cross and a special Medal for Valor.

To honor the sacrifices of the chaplains and the 668 other men killed on the *Dorchester*, the Chapel of Four Chaplains was dedicated in 1951 on the Temple University campus in Philadelphia. Rev. Daniel A. Poling, Lt. Poling's father, presided at the dedication ceremony.

Forced to move after the lease with Temple expired in 1990, the chapel set up temporary residence in Valley Forge, Pa. Ground breaking and construction of the new chapel will begin after \$1 million has been raised, according to Archie Roberts, acting senior chaplain of the Chapel of Four Chaplains. About \$375,000 of the \$5 million needed for the project has been raised.

The chapel, to be located on a site 2.5 miles west of Valley Forge National Park, will include a *Dorchester* museum.

For information, write: The Chapel of Four Chaplains, P.O. Box 1943, Valley Forge, PA 19482. □



ALEXANDER D. GOODE



GEORGE L. FOX



CLARK V. POLING



JOHN P. WASHINGTON



## TENNESSEE POST 17 HOUSES NEEDY VETERANS

**M**EMBERS of the Legion in Gallatin, Tenn., got tired waiting for government to respond to the needs of local veterans. They went out and bought a

hotel and restaurant and turned them into the Sumner County Veterans Home.

The home, owned and operated by Post 17 in Gallatin, provides shelter for needy, aging or homeless veterans in the area.

"Times are bad for some veterans and who better to look out for them than Legionnaires?" says Post 17 Legionnaire James Boone. Boone and James Claridy, also a member of Post 17, originated the idea of having the Post buy the old motel and nearby restaurant and converting them into a veterans home.

It cost the 400-member Post more than \$150,000 to buy the property and make necessary renovations. Post members were fully aware that federal funds were available for a project of this type, but as Boone says, "Federal money means federal strings are attached. So, we've backed away from that approach for now."

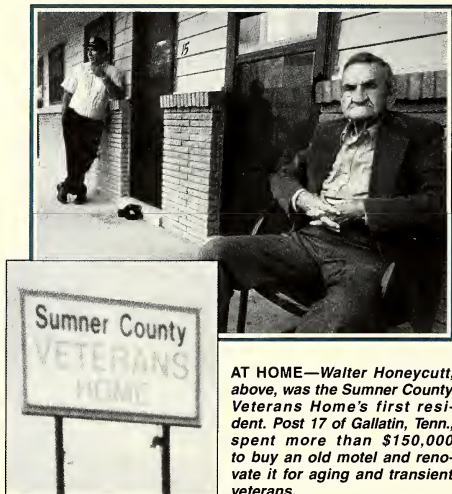
For its 12 current residents, the home offers more than just a shelter. It provides privacy, something most of them have not had for some time. The rooms are small with basic furnishings, and some are equipped with kitchenettes. There is also a common lounge area with a

large-screen TV, and a laundry facility on the premises.

Upkeep and utility fees for the facility comes from rent paid by the residents—whatever they can afford up to one-third of their income. Three additional rooms are rented out to Tennessee Valley Authority workers and this income goes into an account for repairs and improvements.

Although the home is primarily for county veterans, two rooms are reserved as temporary shelter for transient veterans. "We're also set up to take care of veterans and their families," says Boone. "It's always tough when there are children involved."

The poor, the neglected elderly and the homeless present problems not even the federal government has been able to solve. But members of Post 17 believe they have found what can help needy veterans in their own community, and that is the Sumner County Veterans Home. □



**AT HOME**—Walter Honeycutt, above, was the Sumner County Veterans Home's first resident. Post 17 of Gallatin, Tenn., spent more than \$150,000 to buy an old motel and renovate it for aging and transient veterans.

## MUSEUM REMEMBERS MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

**N**OTHING commands more respect, especially from ex-GIs, than the MOH, the nation's highest military award—the Medal of Honor. In Chattanooga, Tenn., that respect has taken the form of a museum with 10,000 square feet of displays and memorabilia dedicated to the memory of heroic veterans, living and dead.

The Medal of Honor Mu-

seum was originated by John H. Hill, president and chief executive officer of Colonial Freight Systems. After more than three years of work, the museum opened its doors to visitors in July 1990.

The museum is managed by Leo B. Smith, the executive director, and a 16-member board of trustees which includes members of The American Legion and other veterans groups. If enough funds are raised, the muse-

um will move to larger quarters by 1994.

On display are the stories and artifacts of America's war heroes, from the Civil War to the present. A staff of 25 volunteers, mostly military retirees or ex-GIs, serve as tour guides and arrange, decorate and maintain the displays. The staff also promotes the museum by speaking before school and civic groups.

The museum is open from

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Admission is free, though donations of money and military artifacts are welcome. Museum director Smith says that people who donate \$25 or more can have their names inscribed on plaques that will be placed in the new museum.

For more information, contact: The Medal of Honor Museum, 400 Georgia Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37403; (615) 267-1737. □

# Amazing New Product Gives Crisp, Clear TV Reception WITHOUT Cable!

Until recently, the only convenient way to guarantee great TV reception was to get cable installed. But who wants to pay those irritating monthly cable fees just to get clear reception? Now, thanks to years of micro-electronic research, a new device has been developed that's so advanced it actually makes other antennas a thing of the past. It's called the SWEDA™ Power Antenna and is without a doubt "the single most important thing you should own if you have a TV!"

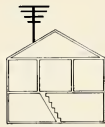
## A PICTURE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY!

Just imagine watching TV and seeing a picture so brilliantly clear that you'd almost swear you were there live! Just plug this tiny 2" x 4" Power Antenna into any ordinary AC outlet, connect your TV and get ready for the best reception you've ever had without cable. You'll watch in amazement as YOUR TV set suddenly displays a sharp, focused picture. You literally "won't believe your eyes!" Even older TV sets suddenly come to life. The Power Antenna is so easy to install, so convenient to use, and so incredibly effective that you'll wonder how you ever got by without it!

## A THOUSAND FOOT ANTENNA?

Power Antenna is a highly sophisticated electronic product (like a transistor radio) with a simple function. It takes the electrical wiring in your house or apartment (hundreds or thousands of feet) and turns it into a

Just plug your Power Antenna™ into any ordinary outlet and watch in amazement as your entire house turns into a giant TV reception station!



BEFORE:



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giant TV reception station! It's almost like having an antenna the size of your entire house! Imagine how effective that would be. But there's more, because Power Antenna takes that signal and electronically boosts it before it gets to your TV set. The results are amazing! You can finally enjoy your favorite prime time shows or sports events the way they were meant to be watched.

## WHAT ABOUT MY TV "DISH" ANTENNA?

Return it! Millions of these things have been sold in recent years because people were led to believe they would work like a satellite dish. The truth is that they're no more effective than rabbit-ears, a loop, or rod antenna — and people have been struggling with these things for years! The incredible SWEDA™ Power Antenna makes everything else seem obsolete. Just plug it in and watch it work. There's simply NOTHING ELSE better valued on the market today!

**LIMITED TIME OFFER!**  
Electronic antennas like this



one normally sell for \$50 or more! But now, for a limited time (if you respond before March 15, 1993), you can have the amazing SWEDA™ Power Antenna for just \$19.95. Experience the best reception you've ever had or simply return it within 30 days for a prompt and courteous refund. You absolutely must see it to believe it! **ORDER TODAY.**

**P.S.** Works just as good for radio reception too! Limit 3 per order.

**RESPOND BEFORE MARCH 15TH  
FOR THIS SPECIAL OFFER!**

**YES!** Please rush me the following SWEDA™ Power Antenna(s)!

☐ One Power Antenna for just \$19.95 plus \$4 P&H.

☐ **SAVE \$5!** Two for just \$34.95 plus \$5 P&H.

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—Qty. Extra length 6 foot connection cable just \$2 ea. (a \$5.00 value).

Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_. VA residents add sales tax.

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## FISHING LURES DISABLED VETERANS

**A** COOL, north-western breeze glides across the Monterey Bay waters as "Mean Gene, The Salmon Machine," feels a tug from the depths. And sure enough his pole bends. He has a solid strike.

The cry, "Fish on!" re-sounds, as the boat gently rocks off the California coast. "Mean Gene," who is actually Gene Miller, a disabled veteran from Mariposa, Calif., reels in another salmon.

Miller was among the 109 veterans who participated in the 1992 Monterey Bay Wheelchair Salmon Derby. The spring Salmon Derby and the fall Rock Cod Fishing Derby allow handicapped veterans, such as Miller, to experience the thrill and friendship of fishing.

"This gives veterans a way to go fishing again," says Mark Giblin, organizer of the derbies and founder of Monterey Bay Veterans Inc. "These veterans can cast

away their doubts and just enjoy themselves."

In 1986, Giblin, a disabled veteran himself, was hospitalized and for a brief time confined to a wheelchair. He longed to go fishing, but because of the structure of docks and boats, Giblin found that for the disabled, the simple sport of boat fishing was difficult. That's why he created Monterey Bay Veterans Inc. and the Salmon Derby. He installed a dockside elevator lift so wheelchair-bound veterans can be easily lifted in and out of boats.

Monterey Bay Veterans Inc. is a non-profit organization supported by donations from veterans' groups and individuals. The Department of California has given the organization \$5,000 and Giblin's Post, Post 591 of Seaside, Calif., and Post 367 of Los Angeles have donated money and volunteers for the derbies. Also, Post 41 of Monterey, Calif., hosted a salmon steak barbecue for veterans participating in last year's derby.

About 30 disabled veterans participated in the first Salmon Derby five years ago. This past year, three charter boats and 18 private boats carried 109 participants in the Salmon Derby.

The Rock Cod Derby is equally popular. Last fall, 114 veterans took rod and reel in hand to cast for the big ones and earn prizes such as trips, and electric rods and reels.

On most days, Giblin, an 18-year Army veteran, is in the Monterey Bay Veterans Inc. office, just 50 feet from Monterey Bay waters. Nearby is his 18-foot-boat, Lady Coho, which he makes available to veterans.

In addition to the Salmon Derby and Rod Cod Derby, disabled veterans can make appointments and go on individual fishing excursions. The only cost to veterans is the transportation. Monterey Bay Veterans Inc. furnishes the boats, rods, reels and bait. Volunteers help the veterans bait their hooks and haul in their catches. Whether the veterans are in wheelchairs or visually impaired, they all have fun, says Giblin.

Although most participating veterans are from California, including patients of the Palo Alto, Calif., VA Hospital, Giblin invites disabled veterans all over the nation to come and enjoy the fishing. This year's Salmon Derby will be in late April. The specific date depends on the weather.

For more information about the derbies, contact: Monterey Bay Veterans Inc., 32C Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940; (408) 646-8324. ☐

## LEGIONNAIRES IN ACTION

Chartered only last year, **Post 1992 of Aurora, Colo.**, has already contributed to its community. The Post raised more than \$4,200 to purchase a specially equipped wheelchair for three-year-old Matthew Winemiller, who has cerebral palsy.

**Post 62 of Ellington, Conn.**, boasts that Charlie Batz has served as Post adjutant for 52 years, possibly the longest tenure of any Post adjutant.

One man's fight may mean Colorado veterans will get license plates acknowledging their sacrifices. **Nick DeBono, Commander of Post 11 of Trinidad, Colo.**, launched a campaign to have the state create license plates for veterans. His initial attempts to get the state legislature to pass a measure were quashed. But he kept after them until the lawmakers decided last year they'd rather have the plate than continue to fight DeBono.

**Post 48 of Ilwaco, Wash.**, organized a fund drive to build a memorial honoring the U.S. Coast Guard's Life Saving Service. After much work, the memorial was dedicated last May.

To recognize community members who work on Legion programs but who are not eligible for Legion membership, **Post 209 of Orfordville, Wis.**, gives the Friendship Award. The 1992 recipients were Karen and Herbie Olson.

**Post 88 of Turlock, Calif.**, is understandably proud of its chaplain, Rev. Oran Bollinger, who was appointed Department chaplain. Bollinger also is District and Area chaplain. ☐



**HOOKED**—Gene Miller was among the disabled veterans who participated in the annual free fishing competition sponsored by Monterey Bay Veterans Inc. of California.

# Why Haven't Seniors Been Told These Facts?

Doctors know that the balance reflex in humans declines sharply after age 65. As you age, your brain's ability to compensate for sudden changes in balance and space orientation grows steadily weaker (for example, you trip and then fall.)

A result is the frightening danger for seniors to suffer accidental falls that cause crippling injuries (more than 200,000 hip fractures result from falls each year.) But the terrible risks of falls and the potential injuries from falls can be greatly reduced. Poor balance can be improved.

The secret is a program of simple movements that when performed with regular frequency can make falling and the injuries from falls far less likely. It was developed by a former Olympic diving coach who has been working with seniors and teaching them the techniques of better balance for over 30 years. The program works on the principle that poor balance can be improved at any age. In addition, these easy balance improvement movements can even help strengthen your bones.

Furthermore, according to the author, of

those seniors who have mastered the program and sustained accidental falls, *not one has been seriously hurt*. Think of it! For years seniors have taken for granted that old age, poor balance and crippling falls go hand-in-hand. This amazing program puts that concept to rest.

The author has put all the details of her revolutionary balance system for seniors into a **LARGE PRINT**, easy-to-follow guide...complete with illustrations showing exactly how to perform each balance improvement activity at home. She calls her guide "How to Prevent Falls: A Comprehensive Guide to Better Balance." It can save thousands of lives from needless pain and suffering every year.

This remarkable program has been used successfully by doctors and physical therapists for use with their own patients and family members. Now it is available to you. Not just another "nail down the rugs" method of fall prevention...but a proven method for seniors to revitalize their lives at any age. If you do nothing else today, resolve to read it yourself or share it with friends or family. Millions of senior aged men

and women think growing old means cutting back on daily activities for fear of falling. *We guarantee you WON'T fear falling after opening this guide!*

**"I recommend this book to all," says Nobel Prize winner Dr. Linus Pauling, himself a senior in his 90's who uses this program as part of his daily regimen.**

Right now you can receive a special press run of "How to Prevent Falls: A Comprehensive Guide to Better Balance" for only \$9.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling (\$11.95 total.) It comes with a 90 day Money Back Guarantee. If you are dissatisfied in any way, just return it in 90 days for a full refund, no questions asked.

**HERE'S HOW TO ORDER:** just print your name and address and the words "Prevent Falls" on a piece of paper and mail it along with a check or money order for only \$11.95 to: THE LEADER CO., INC., Publishing Division, Dept. PF2011, P.O. Box 8347, Canton, OH 44711. VISA or MasterCard send card number and expiration date. Act now. Walk with confidence again.

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# Discover Amish Folk Medicine's Natural Health Secrets

If you are health conscious and want to get back to nature...Look at the Amish. They are robust and healthy. Yet they rely on simple, drug-free home remedies and folk medicine for their everyday health problems.

Their philosophy is "What's old is of the good." They claim their folk medicines, handed down from generation to generation, still work today for everything from colds to *kee-gretz* (foot fungus.)

An encyclopedia of their natural health secrets, called *Amish Folk Medicine* is now available to the general public. It has hundreds of proven home remedies using simple items you have around your home like vinegar, salt, soda—even vanilla. You'll be amazed at the ordinary spices and herbs the Amish use for their health qualities.

The author gathered her collection of little-known folk medicines as editor of the home remedy section of a magazine published by and for the Amish.

Speaking of these health secrets, she says, "A doctor was usually called as a last resort, after everything else failed, and this wasn't often."

Learn Amish folk medicine secrets for:

- **Backache?** This home-made liniment has been used for hundreds of years to relieve aches and pains.
  - **Poor memory?** The Amish swear by this common seed to sharpen the memory.
  - **Can't take aspirin?** Discover the natural ingredient that has pain killing properties.
  - **Allergies?** Use nature's antihistamine.
  - **Arthritis pain?** Try this all-natural tonic for relief.
  - **Prostrate trouble?** This tea is the Amish secret.
  - **Want to stop smoking?** Learn age-old ways to kick the habit.
  - **Trouble sleeping?** This simple remedy is said to induce a peaceful slumber.
  - **Nervous?** Enjoy blissful tranquility without drugs.
  - **Losing hair?** Proof of this remedy is seen in Amish people's luxuriant hair and beards.
- You also learn health tips for: **constipation, cold sores, menopausal problems, sinus trouble, hemorrhoids, varicose veins and more.**

These are only a few of the many trusted home remedies in *Amish Folk Medicine*. Learn how to make "Go Back" drops, the Amish stomach remedy. Prepare their "Green Moun-

tain Salve" for boils and sores. Mix up some "Good Samaritan Oil" for colds and flu. Discover 6 ways to relieve muscle cramps, how the Amish use red beets to fight infection, which vegetables and fruits can cleanse and heal, and the Amish natural weight loss method.

Try the Amish cure for *au-gewachsen*. That's their word for the aches that come from a long buggy ride, but it works for any kind of muscle fatigue.

Right now, as part of a special introductory offer, you can receive a special press run of *Amish Folk Medicine* for only \$8.95 plus \$1 postage and handling. Your satisfaction is **100% guaranteed**. You must be completely satisfied, or simply return it within 90 days for a **full refund-no questions asked**.

**HERE'S HOW TO ORDER:** simply print your name and address and the words "Amish Folk Medicine" on a piece of paper and mail it along with a check or money order for only \$9.95 to: THE LEADER CO., INC. Publishing Division, Dept. AM301, P.O. Box 8347, Canton, Ohio 44711. (Make checks payable to The Leader Co., Inc.) VISA or MasterCard send card number and expiration date. Order now.

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## HOW TO USE VETS

This month there are 1,008 military reunions listed on these pages. However, VETS has information on more than 10,000 other reunions. For information on reunions for any military unit or ship, call

**(900) 737-VETS**  
(900) 737-8387

If you know the VETS five-digit number assigned to the ship or unit, please give it to the operator. The number is printed immediately after the unit in the magazine. If you don't know the VETS number or haven't seen the ship or unit listed in the magazine, VETS opera-

tors may still be able to provide you with information. Many units are enrolling daily in VETS. Operators are on call Monday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time; from noon to 8 p.m. Central Standard Time; from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mountain Standard Time; and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. Phone calls cost \$1.95 per minute, and the average call takes two minutes or less. Proceeds help support various veterans' and children's programs and services sponsored by The American Legion.

## OUTFIT REUNIONS

Reunion coordinators can enroll their units in VETS by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to VETS, P.O. Box 10088, Columbia, MO 65205-4000. Unit names may be published two times per year, upon request.

## Army

1st Air Cav, 8th Sq, 9th Cav C Troop  
Scouts (Vietnam/Cambodia 1970)  
#14839  
1st Air Cav, 8th Eng Bn, Co A (Vietnam 1969) #14840  
1st Cav. Div. Assn. #16387  
1st Inf. Div., 4th Cav., 1st Sq. #22670  
1st Inf. Div., 26th Rgt., 103rd AAA (WWII) #11355  
1st Inf. Div., 18th Rgt., Anti Tank Co. WWII #28270  
1st Inf. Div., 2nd Rgt., 2nd Bn., Co C 1966-68 #14819  
1st Inf. Div., 145th Eng Bn (Jul 1941 to Jan 46) #1829  
1st Inf. Div., 550th Eng Combat Bn. (Jan 1947 to Mar 49) #14830  
1st Inf. Div., 70th Eng Combat Bn. (Mar 1949 to Mar 53) #14831  
1st Inf. Div., 70th Eng Bn (Apr 1949 to Nov 69) #14832  
1st MP Co. (1948/51) #15457  
1st Plt, Co A, 27 E B C (Vietnam 1969) #14844  
1st Prov. (T.Gp., China/Air, HQ. 527th Inf. Div., 1st/2nd (T) Bns. #11339  
2nd AAA Grp. Hq. Btl. #14714  
2nd Arm'd Div., 702nd Tnk. Destroyer Bn., C Co. Assn. #28392  
2nd Chem Mortar Bn. (WWII) #15805  
2nd Inf. Div., 38th Rgt., M Co., 81st MM Mortar Pltn. (Korea 1953/54) #11101  
2nd Inf. Div., 9th Rgt. Serv. Co. #28411  
2nd Inf. Div., 72nd Tank Bn., B Co. Korea 1950/53 #14718  
3rd 60th/4th 47th/3rd 47th Riverine Infantry (Dong Tam) #30142

3rd Arm'd FA Bn. (WWII) #15999  
3rd Arm'd Div., 36th A.I.R., 1st Bn. HQ Co. CA (WWII) #16557  
4th Army, 129th/130th Eng Co Bat. Co (B) #28331  
5th Inf. Div., Western Pennsylvania Chapter #14721  
4th Inf. Div., 35th Rgt., 2nd Bn. #14784  
4th Trans. Co. 152nd Maint. Det. - (Med. Helicopter) #16221  
5th Army Assn. (ETO-WWII) #11600  
5th Arm'd Div. Assn. #15428  
5th RCT, (Korea) #11404  
6th Arm'd Div., 25th Arm'd Engrs Bat #28410  
7th Army, 40th Sig. Const. Bn., B Co. (Germany 1952/55) #22079  
7th Army, 1st Sig. Bn., D Co. (Bolingen/Ger. 1962/64) #30025  
7th Army, 1st Mst. Bn., 39th Arty. (Germany 1960/63) #23358  
7th Inf. Rgt. Assn. #16139  
8th Army Hq. WWII Japan/Korea #14787  
8th Inf. Div., 13th Rgt., D Co., WWII #14780  
8th Inf. Div., 86th Rgt., HQ & HQ Co. #22829  
11th A/B Div., 187th Para-Glider Inf., E Co. #16381  
11th A/B Div. Assn. (1942/58) #14244  
11th A/B Div., 118th Rgt., E Co. (Parachute & Glider) #21525  
12th Arm'd Div. Assn. #16398  
12th Army Group, Hqs WWII #28424  
12th Arm'd Div. (N. Central Chap.) #16476  
14th Avn. Bn., HQ & HQ Det. (Vietnam 1966/67) #11782  
14th Avn. Bn., 71st Avn. Co. (Vietnam 1966/67) #11783  
14th Avn. Bn., 174 Avn. Co. (Vietnam 1966/67) #11784  
14th Avn. Bn., 176 Avn. Co. (Vietnam 1966/67) #11785  
14th Avn. Bn., 178th Avn. Co. (Vietnam 1966/67) #11786  
14th Avn. Bn., 280th HC (Vietnam 1966/67) #11787  
14th Avn. Bn., 161st/170th Avn. Co. (Lt. Helicopter Vietnam 1966/67) #26771  
14th Avn. Bn., 406th Trans. Det. (Vietnam 1966/67) #22677  
14th Engr. Bn. (Quangtrui, Vietnam) #22229  
15th FA Bn., 7th Bn (Vietnam) #22784

16th/19th Cav. Sqs., 16th Cav. Grp. #10863  
17th & 18th QCS Bands & Attech. Fld. Units (Miami Beach FL WWII) #11698  
17th A/B Div. Assn. #16619  
17th A/B Div. Operation Varsity #14725  
20th Arm'd Div., 8th A.I. Bn., A Co. #14777  
20th Engr. Brigade (Vietnam) #22263  
21st AAA Avn. Bn. (SP), D Btry. #20574  
21st Inf. Rgt. (Japan & Korea) #2639  
24th Evac. Hospital - Vietnam/WWII #16725  
24th Inf. Div., 26th AAA Bn., D Btry. (1952/54) #11470  
24th Inf. Div., 21st Rgt., L Co. (Korea 1950/51) #12001  
24th Inf. Div., 2nd Bn. 70th Arm., Bn. Mc (Augsburg, Germany 1961/63) #14821  
26th AAA Grp. #11642  
26th Inf. Div., Mid-West Chap. Of Yankee Div. #16183  
27th Eng Bn (CBT) Co A 1968/69 #14841  
28th Inf. Div., 110th Inf. Rgt., 2nd Bn., HQ & HQ Co. (1950/52) #16290  
31st Inf. Dixie Div. Society #15284  
31st Inf. Div., 155th Rgt., E Co. Dixie Div #14601  
32nd Inf. Div., Red Arrow Club of FL #21786  
32nd Inf. Div. Veterans Assn. #22197  
33rd Inf. Div., 136th Rgt., A Co. #16633  
33rd Inf. Rgt., 2nd Bn., Combat Team. Panama (1950/51) #11952  
35th Trans. Corp. (Australia, New Guinea, Philippines 1944/45) #14760  
36th Inf. Div. National Assn. #16512  
38th General Hospital (1943) #12043  
39th Combat Engr. (Vietnam) #22094  
40th Cav. Recon. Tro. (WWII) #16208  
40th Inf. Div., HQ & HQ Co. (WWII) #15917  
40th Inf. Div., Korean War Veterans Assn #14836  
42nd Engr. EOB/KECB #22056  
43rd Inf. Div., 103rd Rgt. Vets Assn #28443  
43rd Inf. Div. Vets Assn. Sunbelt Chapter #20030  
44th Inf. Div., 63rd Combat Engr Bn, Co B. #14745  
44th Inf. Div., 63rd Engr. (C) Bn., C Co. & HQ Co. #12034  
44th Inf. Div., 63rd Engr Bn. #28352  
45th Inf. Div. 180th Inf Rgt. Assn (Thunderbirds WWII & Korea) #15434  
45th Inf. Div., 180th Rgt., G Co. (Thunderbirds WWII & Korea) #15990  
45th Inf. Div., 179th Rgt., B Co. #16267  
45th Inf. Div. 180th Rgt. B Co. Korea 1950/51 #14785  
45th Med. Co. Air Ambul./54th MCAA (Vietnam) #22365  
45th Med. Air Ambul (Vietnam) #28429  
47th/134th Engrs. #15399  
48th Military Govt. HQ & HQ Co. #14185  
52nd Avn. Bn., 170th Avn. Co. #11984  
53rd Inf. Rgt. Assn. #15478  
54th Signal Bn. & Attach Units #11918  
55th MC Rgt. (HM), Hdqtrs Co., Co's A,B,C,D, & F #16620  
59th Cripple Drive (April 1946 Fort Snelling MN) #14853  
59th Engr. Land Clearing #22183  
63rd Inf. Div. Assn. #10335  
63rd Inf. Div., 253rd Rgt., F Co. (WWII) #14111  
65th Arm'd Field Arty. Bn. Assn. #28383  
65th General Hospital (WWII) #15557  
69th General Hospital - Lido, India #16194  
69th Inf. Div., 880th FA Bn., HQ Btry. Assn #15671  
70th Arm'd Div., 2nd Bn., Maintenance (Augsburg, Germany) #12054  
73rd Engr (LP) Co. #14752  
74th CA (AA)/370th Eng Combat Bn WWII Assn. #16715  
74th General Hospital (WWII) #16445  
76th Engr Const. Bn. Co "C" (Korea 1950/52) #28423  
76th General Hospital #16149  
78th Inf. Div., 309th Rgt., E Co. #16510  
79th Inf. Div., 311th FA Bn., B Btry. (WWII)

#11980  
81st Co. NCOO #15673  
81st Inf. Div., 322nd Rgt., C Co. (Wildcat WWII) #10825  
82nd AAA Bn., 50th Parachute Inf. Rgt. Assn (WWII) #16697  
83rd Inf. Div., 329th Rgt., F Co. #30041  
84th & 82nd Engr Co Bn (Korea) #14727  
85th AAA Bn., B Co. (1950-54) #28440  
86th Chem. Mortar Bn. Assn. #16089  
86th Inf. Div., 186th Rgt., B Co. #11455  
88th Engr. Hy. Pon. Bn. (WWII) #15744  
90th Inf. Div., 790th Ord. Co. #20896  
90th Inf. Div. (- All Attached Units) #22982  
93rd Engr Co B 1967/68 Vietnam #14735  
95th Maint. Ord. Co. #28442  
97th Inf. Div., Arty. HQ Btry. #10725  
79th Inf. Div. Arty 303rd, 365th, 389th, 922nd FA Bn. (WWI & WWII) #16119  
98th AAA Bn. (WWII) #22080  
102nd Engr Co (C.S.) Vietnam 1965/66 #14726  
103rd Inf. Div., 409th Rgt., C Company #28401  
104th Inf. Div. (Timberwolf) WWII Assn #22779  
105th/203rd General Hospital (WWII) #10098  
106th AAA Co. #28332  
109th Evac Hospital #28289  
113th Cavalry #30040  
113th Cavalry, Red Horse Reunion #11640  
119th AAA Co. #15677  
119th Assault Helicopter Co. #22114  
119th Evac Hospital (ETQ) WW2 #22999  
120th Evac. Hosp. (ETQ) WWII #11768  
126th AAA Gun Bn., HQ Btry. #10221  
128th Signal Co., Cam Rahn Vietnam #14794  
135th Ordnance MM Co. #16435  
155th Station Hospital 1942/45 #14837  
163rd Engr. Combat Bn. WWII #15330  
166th Ord. Tire Repair Co. WWII #14763  
167th Rgt., G Co. (1954/55) #16217  
168th AAA Bn. (WWII) #14842  
168th Engr. Combat Bn. (WWII, Korea, Vietnam) #16694  
168th FA Bn WWII #14759  
170th Avn Co., 52nd Avn Bn. Vietnam #14745  
172nd Combat Engr Bn., Co. A,B,C & HS (WWII) #15300  
172nd Engr. Combat Bn. WWII #18706  
177th FA, 1st Bn., HQ Btry. #16283  
184th Inf. Assn. (WWII) #20687  
187th Abn. Rgt. Rakkasans Assn., Rice Paddy Jumpers (WWII, Korea, Vn) #21133  
190th FA Grp. Assn. WWII #16281  
191st Field Arty Bn #16232  
192nd Ordn Co. (Depot) WWII #11270  
193rd Tnk. Bn., HQ & HQ Co. #18698  
199th Light Inf. Bde. Assn. (Vietnam, Cambodia) #15322  
1st Inf. Div., 35th Rgt., 2nd Bn (Oct 1933 to Sept 43) #14828  
204th AAA Bn. WWII #16379  
204th AAA Bn., B Co., B Btry. (Other Btry. Incl. 1943/45) #15566  
208th Combat Engr Bn. (WWII) #15561  
223rd Rgt. Inf., 1st Bn., HQ Co. #14812  
226th AAA S/L Bn., B Co. #11167  
233rd AAA S/L Bn., C Co. #15787  
235th F.A. Coast Arty. Bn. (Korea) #15808  
243rd FA Bn. Assn. #16564  
245th CA AAA Gun & Missile Bns., NYNG. Old 13th Reg. #16178  
246th Engr. C Bn WWII #28397  
250th AAA S/L Bn. (PTQ 1942/46) #11835  
255th Ord. MM Co. #12066  
257th AAA Bn., B Co. #15980  
280th F.A. Bn. (WWII) #16212  
282nd Helicopter Co. (Vietnam) #11985  
293rd Engr. (C) Bn., C Co. #10234  
304th Sig. Bn., Silk Mill Bldg. (Yokahama (WWII - Nov 1946) #21870  
327th Station Hospital #14823  
337th/1338th Combat Engrs. #15779  
351st Comm. Recon. Co. #15504  
362nd AAA S/L Bn., 351st MP Bn., 799th MP Co. (WWII) #20765  
368th Engr Bn. #28365  
369th EASR. #16036

Please turn page

Read why one of the top horticultural experts in America declared under oath:

# "THIS IS THE BEST DARN TOMATO I'VE EVER TASTED!"

And it's absolutely the easiest Tomato to grow—

- NO STAKING
- NO CAGING
- NO PRUNING
- NO TRIMMING

just harvest meal after meal of huge luscious, mouth watering Tomatoes all season long!"

I'd like to share the news with Tomato Lovers everywhere about a remarkable hybrid that revolutionizes home gardening . . . a breakthrough from agricultural test gardens that someday will be in everyone's home garden. Act promptly to be one of the FIRST home gardeners to grow it this year! This amazing Tomato is unlike any you've sunk a sweet-tooth into before!

## Incredibly Delicious Taste!

When it comes to taste, it's the all-time champ! Quite frankly, it's the best darn Tomato I've ever tasted! Its ruby-red flesh literally bursts forth with sugar-sweet flavor and intense Tomato taste. The mouthwatering flavor of this astonishing Tomato is a revelation—until you've tried it, you simply can't imagine how delicious a Tomato can be! Each super-succulent fruit is a whopping 12" . . . 13" . . . even 14" or more around. And you'll harvest a dramatic outpouring of up to 50 POUNDS or more of great-tasting Tomatoes from every single plant.

## Incredibly Easy to Grow!

This amazing hybrid is absolutely the easiest Tomato to grow that I've ever seen! Horticultural scientists actually **BRED OUT** all the bother when they **BRED IN** all that good taste. With this Miracle-Bush™ Tomato there's no staking, no caging, no trimming, no pruning, no special care. Just start it indoors on any sunny windowsill, then set it out in your garden and watch it grow! You'll harvest meal

Amazing hybrid literally pours forth succulent, juicy Tomatoes 12" . . . 13" . . . even 14" or more around. John W. Bennett of Appleton, GA, grew this Miracle-Bush™ Tomato 21" around! Send us a snapshot of your biggest Miracle-Bush™ Tomato and if it's the biggest one of all

**WE'LL PAY YOU A \$1,000.00 AWARD!**

Tomato Variety:  
Super Bush

after meal of fabulous "half-pounder" beauties from each individual plant, all season long. These Tomatoes never get leggy, never sprawl through your garden. Instead, each plant grows to a well-shaped bush about 35" tall . . . so symmetrical, so pretty you'll consider using the Miracle-Bush™ Tomato as an ornamental in your front lawn. There's no better tomato for window boxes or containers on a sunny porch or patio!

## Meal after Meal of Delicious Tomatoes Week after Wonderful Week!

Just imagine the taste-thrills you'll enjoy as you prepare super-salads and sauces . . . picture the mouth-watering snacks you'll glory to . . . sink your teeth into the delicious flesh of these astounding Tomatoes right off the bush!

You'll be the hero of your family, the hit of the neighborhood with these heaven-sent beauties! And you'll have more than enough to share with the neighbors . . . because I'm not talking skimpy, I'm talking Tomatoes . . . scores of Tomatoes from every plant! Not teeny-weensy tiny Tomatoes other bush hybrids produce, but magnificent big "movie star" half-pounders so rich in flavor every time you taste

one, your taste buds will throw a party for your mouth.

## The Best Tomatoes in the World Just One Penny Each!

These days, when I walk into a grocery store, I get sick at the prices I see. Sometimes two dollars a pound and more for plastic-looking, plastic-tasting things that should be ashamed to be called Tomatoes. Then I think of delicious Miracle-Bush™ Tomatoes you can grow for about a penny apiece and I pity people who never even dream how scrumptious a Tomato can be! If you like Tomatoes, you'll love my Miracle-Bush™ beauties! I'm so certain of that fact that I'll pay for the Tomatoes myself if I'm wrong.

## The Most Mouth-Watering Tomatoes Ever—Or your Money Back

Send for my Miracle-Bush™ Tomatoes now . . . plant them in your garden . . . and enjoy their luscious goodness as snacks, in salads and sauces all season long. If you're not thrilled with my Miracle-Bush™ Tomatoes just let me know next fall, and I'll refund every penny you paid! Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed, or your money back.

## MEET W.M.—AND DISCOVER WHY WE CAN'T USE HIS NAME!



For more than 25 years, W.M. has been recognized as one of America's leading experts on gardening and horticulture. He has contributed to several books, and has written countless articles on home gardening for magazines and newspapers. Before his demise, he lectured all across the country and was on the faculty of one of our nation's leading Universities. To protect his family's privacy, we have agreed not to use his name, but every claim in this advertisement is his . . . and every word is true. This statement is notarized to prove it!

*John W. Bennett*

**FREE**

**FOR FAST ACTION!** Order three or more Miracle-Bush Tomatoes within the next 10 days, and we'll also send you a Surprise Nursery Pack of easy-to-grow Giant Vegetable Seeds (a \$5.00 value!) absolutely FREE of extra cost

**MBT Nursery Sales, Dept. MBT-103, 1401 Lakeland Ave., Bohemia, New York 11716**

Please rush me the Miracle-Bush Tomato(es) checked below. I understand each one comes in its own pre-treated, pre-seeded professional nurseryman's starter pot, guaranteeing me the best-tasting Tomatoes I've ever eaten, or my money back (except postage and handling).

- ☐ One Miracle-Bush™ Tomato, just \$2.50 plus 95¢ postage and handling.
- ☐ Two Miracle-Bush™ Tomatoes, just \$4.50 plus \$1.50 postage and handling.
- ☐ Three Miracle-Bush™ Tomatoes, just \$5.50 plus \$1.75 postage and handling.
- ☐ Six Miracle-Bush™ Tomatoes, just \$8.00 plus plus \$2.50 postage and handling.

☐ Twelve Miracle-Bush™ Tomatoes, just \$15.00 postpaid.

Total amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_ (NY residents please add sales tax)

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Miracle-Bush™ is our trade name for Super Bush tomato variety. © 1993 MBT Nursery Sales, Inc.

390th Signal Avn. Co., SP (WWII) #15453  
394th Signal Co AVN WWII #14761  
406th Engr. Const. Bn., A Co., #14137  
419th Arm'd F Bn #16399  
423rd C.A. (AAA) Bat D #14768  
441st Engr Depot Co. WWII #28338  
445th AAA AW Bn Vets Assn. #15279  
445th Ord. Armo., Berlin Crisis (1961/62)  
#11831  
460th Parachute F A #14778  
465th F.A. Bn. Assn. 1921/55 #28345  
471st Ord Evac Co (Evac Units Europe)  
WWII #28425  
476th AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #15222  
444th AAA Bn (CBJ) #14751  
501st Parachute Inf. Rgt. Assn. (Pira)  
#16236  
503rd Parachute Inf. #28398  
505th Med Collecting Co #28402  
514th F.A. (WWII) #28389  
516th Signal Corps (Austria 1949/55)  
#15421  
517th F.A. Bn. WWII #28629  
517th Parachute Combat Team Assn.  
#16154  
532nd EB & Srv #16401  
538th MC. Serv Bn. Btry., D Co. #28380  
540th Transportation Det. (LARC/BARCO)  
Vietnam #30116  
549th Hvy. Maint. Ord. Co. (NJ) #1327  
555th Engr. Hvy. Port Bn. #20119  
553rd AAA (AW) Bn WWII #14753  
564th AAA AW Bn. Btry. (WWII) #12055  
564th AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #15620  
583rd MC Sales Co. #18703  
596th Parachute Engr Co. #14779  
620th MP (50th Anniv) #20221  
629th TD Bn., A Co. #12036  
640th MC Ldry. #20175  
662nd F.A. Bn. Btry. & HO #15303  
703rd TD Bn. Assn. #12028  
705th AAA Gun Bn., Btry B (Oakinawa)  
1950/54 #14795  
707th AAA Gun Bn. #16318  
713th Engr. Dep. Co. #28363  
713th Engr. Dpt. #28441  
720th MP Bn. (Al Eras) #10481  
726th MP Bn. (Wes) #16050  
728th Infantry Bn. Bn. WWII #15693  
735th Tank Bn. #20202  
744th Railway Operating Bn. #16475  
746th Railway Oper. Bn. Inc Hqrs Co & Co  
D Members #16258  
749th Railroad Operating Bn. WWII  
#16246  
750th Tank Bn. #28406  
750th Tank Bn. Co B #14750  
751st AAA Gun Bn. Btry B WWII #14762  
751st Tank Bn. #10304  
753rd Railway Shop Bn. TC #16413  
762nd F.A. Bn. Med Det. #28395  
785th Tank Bn. #11663  
787th Tank Bn., B Co. #16700  
790th Ordnance Co. (WWII) #18701  
790th Railway Oper. Bn. (Inchon, Korea)  
1945/47 #12050  
802nd TD Bn. #16601  
807th Engr. Avn. Bn. (Ladd AFB, AK)  
#14161  
832nd Sig Ser Bn. #14071  
842nd AAA AW Bn., A,B,C,D and HO Co.  
(WWII) #18700  
843rd AAA AW Bn. #16444  
845th Avn. Engr. Bn. (WWII) N  
Africa,Italy,Corsica,S France #11923  
860th Engr. Avn Bn. #16425  
865th AAA AW(SP) Bn. WWII & Korea  
#16239  
865th Av. Bn. #16603  
872nd A/B AVN Engr. Bn. #16428  
878th Airborne Engr. Avn Bn. #16442  
893rd Signal Co., Depot Aviation #15965  
893rd Tank Destroyer Bn. #16300  
896th AW Bn. #28404  
906th Ord. HAM Co. #16086  
958th Ordnance (South Pacific  
Command) #14816  
976th F.A. Bn. #28420  
982nd Engr. Const. Bn., B Co. (1950/52)  
#10562  
983th F.A. Bn. WWII #14766  
987th F.A. (Camp Bowie Tex) #14728  
1262th MP Co (Germany 1946/48) #14764  
1280th Combat Engr. Bn., A Co. (WWII)  
#11676

1289th Engr. C Bn. Hq. A,B,C Co (WWII)  
#15920  
3198th Sig. Sv. Bn. (China, India) #12062  
3207th MC Serv. Co. #16263  
3340th Sig. Sv. Bn. (China, India) #12064  
4011th Sig. Sv. Bn. (China, India) #12063  
681st Ord. Staging Det. Camp Pall Mail,  
Etretat FR. (1945) #11977  
8047th Signal Serv. Det. 2 (Sendai,Japan  
1950/52) #22060  
8125th Serv Dog Det. #14716  
Aero Med Engr Assn. #14842  
ASAC, Hq. 1st/46th Inf. 1,196th/198th  
LIB. A Co. (Vietnam) #15446  
Army Ranger Assn. (Dart's Rangers  
WWII) #15739  
ASA, 60th Sig. Radio Intl. Co./Sig Ser Co.  
#10452  
ASA, HO, ASAPAC (1946/52) #12046  
ASA, Vint Hill Reunion #17289  
ASTP/BTC, 5th Rgt., 2nd Co. (Ft Benning  
1944) #11422  
CBI War Dog Det. (WWII) #16573  
Cherif Waf. (Golden Gate Chapter) Korea  
1950 #14793  
Class 5, Engrs OCS, Ft. Belvoir (1951/52)  
#11492  
Combat Infantrymen's Assn. (All C.I.B.  
holders) #11507  
COT 305 (Unit of Arkansas) #14809  
Far East Cmd. Tokyo, GPO, H & S Cmd.,  
Staff Bn., C Co. (AHO 5) #16392  
Ft. Kamehameha HI B550/A (Before &  
WWII) #12005  
Gladiators 57th A.H.C. Kontum, Anke,  
Pleiku, Vietnam 1957/73 #14720  
HO's ASAPAC (1949/52) #28349  
I Army Corps, Sig. Sect. HO (Korea)  
#22316  
JAGC Command, Ft. Benning #20003  
Nahbollenbach Ood Chapter - (1951-56)  
#15893  
OCS Class 33, Ft. Riley #14043  
OCS Fort Riley (1947-53) #16317  
Ord Overseas Maintenance & Modification  
Det (Kangaroo) #14724  
Oter & Caribou Assn. #14790  
Signal Corps 1558 - San Diego 1973 #28426  
Signal Corps OCS Classes, Ft. Gordon,  
GA (Vietnam 1965/68) #22594  
Task Force Smith (Korea) #28417  
US Army Ranger Vets Assn. #28405  
US Constabulary Assn. #18709  
US Med Cdn. Japan (All Units) #28416  
WAC Detachment, Ft. Sill FA School, 85th  
WAAC Post, HO Co. (1943) #11682  
WAC Detachment 1 HO #18695  
WAC Women's Army Corps Vets Assn.  
#15278  
XIII Corps Assn. (WWII) #15530  
XIV Corps, 669th TOPO Engr. #22284  
XIX Army Corps HO & Units #15448

## Navy

4th NCB Spec. #22903  
4th NCB Spec. #28328  
8th NCB Spec. (Aleutians) #17394  
10th NCB #14755  
22nd NCB, Naval Reserve, Vietnam  
#11986  
24th NCB #18647  
24th NCB #28392  
26th NCB #10443  
27th NCB Spec. #14757  
27th NCB Okinawa 1945 #14802  
68th NCB #14843  
78th NCB Assn. (WWII) #18083  
87th NCB #10196  
90th NCB #18036  
91st NCB #11658  
94th NCB (WWII) #22830  
101st NCB #18278  
103rd NCB KOREA 1950/51 #14756  
3070th Naval Base, Fleet Post Office  
(Zamboanga, PI) 1945/46 #12030  
ACORN-19 (Philippines WWII) #11898  
Zamboanga Det #16594  
Amphib Base, Ft. Pierce/Attack Boat Flot.  
(WWII) Assn. #21897  
APc Sailors of WWII #21750

APL-46 (Tokyo 1945-48) #28355  
ATC-151-14 Vietnam 1969 #14845  
Attack Boats (WWII) #11329  
Aviation Ordnancemen Assn (Navy &  
Marine) #22617  
Base Hospital 9 #18704  
Brow Afloat LST Assn. (Mekong Delta,  
Vietnam) #28373  
CASU-1 (1943/46) #12029  
CASU-14 WWII #21510  
CASU-16 (Tarawa 1943/44) #11278  
CASU-42, CASU-13, ACORN-28 #22326  
Ewell Afloat LST Assn. #30108  
CBMU-510 /CBMU-121 #11689  
CBMU-539 WWII #18556  
CBMU-544 #14712  
CBMU-546 WWII #28375  
Columbia Univ. USNR Midshipmen's  
School (1940/45) #10336  
COMSOPAC Communications (New  
Caledonia) #22110  
Cruiser Div-12, USS Cleveland/Columbia/  
Monpeiler/Denver #18068  
DESER, 4th, 9 Ships, 50th Avn. (WWII)  
#11504  
Diesel School - University of Columbia, Mo  
#14822  
FARFAN Radio-Panama Canal Zone Sub.  
Base (1947/52) #22385  
Fleet Air Wing, Ryukyus (Okinawa  
1967/71) #20133  
Fleet Tug Sailors Nat'l Assn. (Navy & CG)  
#17684  
Flying Midshipmen Assn. - (1946-50)  
#17513  
Frigate Sailors (Officers & Company)  
#14848  
GRO-PAC 6, Tinian Boat Pool (WW II  
1944-46) #28356  
GRO-PAC 8, Saipan #18371  
GRO-PAC 9, USNBS 3252 (Peleliu) #14682  
GRON 15, 15th Fleet Air Wing (Port  
Lauayue 1942/43) #12052  
LCI (G) 422, 442, 558, 559, 560, 561, 564,  
565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574  
LCI (G) GROUP 16 #14719  
LCI (L) 228 (WWII) #28438  
LCI (L) 343 (WWII) #28437  
LCI (L) 526 & 39 #14555  
LCI (L) 732 #17377  
LCI National Assn. (1st thru #1098)  
#21615  
LCI 614 #12015  
LCS (L) 1130 Assn. #17604  
LCS (L) 53 #21687  
LCS (L) National Assn. #18234  
LCS (L) 3-78 #12037  
LST Beach Group 42 & 43 #14746  
LSM National Assn. #18552  
LSM 110 #12010  
LSM 16 #28344  
LSM 221 (AMFIBIOUS) #28318  
LSM 316 #28333  
LST Assn of the U.S. (CG to Present)  
#10758  
LST Assn. (MN Chapter Inc CG) #28341  
LST Flotilla #25, Staff (WW2) #28305  
LST-1148 (Korea 1952/53) #12009  
LST-137 #30091  
LST-221 #12027  
LST-269 #11375  
LST-344 (WWII & Viet Nam) #14625  
LST-387 #30092  
LST-392 #17986  
LST-398 #18173  
LST-447 (WWII) #18128  
LST-487 #17731  
LST-511 #14749  
LST-559 (WW II South Pacific) #28445  
LST-571 #22399  
LST-574 Assn #18504  
LST-575 USS Wythe APB-41 #28346  
LST-587 #22102  
LST-605 #12038  
LST-833 #18182  
LST-867 #17739  
LST-906 #17638  
LST-917 (WWII) #17407  
LST-919 #14748  
MCB-3 MAM Deployment 1968/69 #14758  
ACORN-19 (Philippines WWII) #11898  
Mobile Riverines, MTF 117, 92nd River Div.  
(Vietnam) #30143  
Mobile Riverines, MTF 117, 92nd River  
Div. (Vietnam) #11936

Mobile Riverines, MTF 117, 111th River  
Div. (Vietnam) #11937  
Mobile Riverines, MTF 117, 112th River  
Div. (Vietnam) #11938  
Mobile Riverines, MTF 117, 131st River  
Div. (Vietnam) #11939  
Mobile Riverines, MTF 117, 132nd River  
Div. (Vietnam) #11940  
Mobile Riverines, MTF 117, 151st River  
Div. (Vietnam) #11941  
Mobile Riverines, MTF 117, 152nd River  
Div. (Vietnam) #11942  
Mobile Riverines 9th LCV (Vietnam)  
#22977  
Mobile Riverines Armies LCU's #22981  
Mobile Riverine Force Assn. (Dong  
Tam/Mekong VN) #28374  
N.I.O.T.C. Vietnam (1969) #14846  
NAF Naha Okinawa (1957/71) #21251  
NAS Mail, Territory of Hawaii #11313  
Naval Mine Warfare Assn. #10119  
Naval Mine Warfare Test Station (Solo-  
mons Is., Mo 1942/47) #12056  
NAVJACPAC (San Diego) #20083  
Navy Scouts & Raiders (WWII) #17580  
NCB & Command. Unit Balikpapan Borneo  
(1945) #11971  
NCB-157 Palermo (Sicily) #14805  
NSA Natl. Security Assn. Comm Tech  
Center #21602  
NTS Sampson Navy Vets Inc. (WWII)  
#28430  
Nuke Sub Workers / Navy Divers #14797  
Patriot Craft Raiders Assn. #18507  
Patriot Frigate Assn. (All 102 Ships)  
#28325  
PB4Y All Squadrons #21892  
PC-464 #12008  
PC-580 #12021  
PC-596 (1944/46) #11652  
PC-802 #12017  
Port Lynden Alumni Assn. #17207  
River Assault Flot #1 #21155  
Riverine Inf. Vietnam #28372  
RTC Great Lakes, IL Co 91, 1950 #14786  
RTC San Diego, Co. 308 (1969) #11366  
S-13 & SS-116 #17772  
USS Alaska Sailors Nat'l Assn. #14739  
Sampson WWII Navy Vets Inc #14783  
SC-541 #14731  
Scout & Raiders WWII #14717  
Scouts and Raiders (N. Africa 1942)  
#11663  
SLCU-32 B.P. 17 & 18 #11311  
SLNAG-56 (Spec. Naval Advanced Grp.)  
#17426  
South China Patrol, Asiatic Fleet #18034  
SS Charles Robinson (Armed Guard  
Crew) #28435  
SS George W Lively - Armed Guard Crew  
Crew (1943-45) #14765  
SS Lynn Boyd (Armed Guard Crew)  
#28434  
SS Mark Twain (Gun Crews) Armed Guard  
#28413  
SS Mormacswan Armed Guard #11644  
SS Wm Phipps (Gun Crews) Armed Guard  
#28414  
Sub Vets SS-269 #22126  
Task Force 115.1st River Division #28371  
Tophaters (VB-4, VS-VB-11, VA-1A, VA-11)  
#22097  
USN Ammunition Depot 3149 Samar/  
Philippines #14742  
USN Co 47 (1917) Bainbridge MD, NTC  
#14781  
USN Cruiser Sailors Assn. (All Ships  
Company) #11576  
USN Hospital Memphis, TN (1945 Purple  
Heart Persons) #14782  
USNAB Radio Transmitter Sta. Le Havre,  
France (1944/45) #11969  
USS A.A. Cunningham DD-7519  
USS Abnaki ATF-96 #17657  
USS Abner Read DD-526 Survivor Assn.  
#21132  
USS ABSD-2 #10453  
USS ABSD-3 #12022  
USS Achernar AKA-53 Assn #28421  
USS Ajax AKA-5 #15000  
USS Alameda Co. AVB-1 #11305  
USS Alcor #18502  
USS Athens AKA-9/AK-26 #17344  
Please turn page

# Did You Make This Mistake In Writing Your Will?.....

Did you know that writing a Will may be one of the biggest mistakes we can make? It's true!

A Will doesn't protect our loved ones against paying huge fees to lawyers, executors and courts for even the smallest estate. Probate can slice up to 10% or so from an estate and take months or years for final settlement.

In fact, the only thing worse than having just a Will is the nightmare that's created when you have no Will at all.

Because then the State steps in to decide who gets our assets -- our bank account, home, car, valuables, other possessions. Money we've worked so hard to earn is gobbled-up by court and legal fees before our heirs ever get one penny.

What can the average wage earner do to avoid the financial headaches of a Will? Plenty.

Today, under current laws anyone can eliminate costly legal and court fees with a little-known, simple legal paper called a living trust. And you don't have to be rich to enjoy its benefits.

A living trust has been praised by our nation's leading financial planners, and reported in publications such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *Money Magazine*, *Business Week* and others because:

- It eliminates the costly and lengthy probate process. The estate goes directly to your heirs without going through the courts.
- It eliminates the need for an attorney and legal fees that cut your estate. Does away with all court costs, too.
- It gives you complete control of your estate to make sure that all your wishes are carried out.
- A living trust is revocable, which means that you can change your mind at any time about who is going to receive your assets.
- It gives you the right in most cases to name yourself as a trustee, and your spouse or someone else as a co-trustee. Plus the right to change trustees at any time.
- If you own out of state real estate, like a vacation house or cabin, you can save a bundle by avoiding the need for probate in a second state.
- Unlike a Will where your finances and everything you own is a matter of

public record for anyone to see, a living trust is secret.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported that it takes two years to complete the average probate in California. The article also stated that since a living trust is much faster, cheaper, and more private than settling a Will, there are many advantages to using a living trust instead of just a Will.

And *Business Week* reported that many people are using a living trust instead of a Will to reduce the possibility of heirs fighting over your estate.

You must never forget that a Will must be probated and the fees for the probate lawyer and executor -- not including court fees -- range from 6% to 10% and are paid before any of your heirs receive their inheritance. That can take a big chunk out of even the smallest estate when attorneys charge anywhere from \$60.00 to \$150.00 an hour or more!

Look at what happened to the modest estate of Simon Morris:

- The Will of Simon Morris, a Florida resident, left \$77,500 in cash to his widow. Before she could receive it, the probate process grabbed \$9,375.
- Mr. Ken Bradley left \$144,567 directly to his surviving spouse. The probate "fees" of \$8,500 were appealed by the widow. The court ordered a refund of \$7,750 with interest.
- R.L. Roebornstone probably thought his Will would get his \$162,114 safely to his heirs. As they found out probate fees amounted to \$6,484.59.

The pity of it all is that these people could have avoided having large bites taken out of their hard-earned property by using a living trust. They could have passed every cent to their loved ones without squandering money on probate.

If you think a living trust is only for millionaires --- you couldn't be more wrong. Whether you earn \$25,000 or \$100,000 a year -- and whether your assets are huge or small -- a living trust will save you money. In fact ... on a percentage basis living trusts save more on small estates than large ones!

And you can save even more because we have shown hundreds of thousands of people just like you how to do it. It's simple.

The DSA Living Trust Kit was devel-

oped after much research with a team of legal scholars and practicing attorneys. It explains in easy-to-understand language how to set up your own living trust.

Instructions and guidelines are written in simple English. Illustrated step-by-step forms show you how to custom-tailor a legal trust to meet your special personal needs.

- Titles to your real estate, automobiles, boats, stocks, etc. are all safeguarded in your Trust.

Though DSA's exclusive Living Trust Kit will save you a small fortune -- and save your loved ones thousands of dollars later on -- we have kept the price especially low to enable everyone to benefit from it. And now you can save even more. We've cut the price in half and we insist you examine it on a 90-Day No-Risk Trial.

It's easy to get your Living Trust Kit. All you have to do is print "Living Trust" on a sheet of paper. Send it along with your check or money order in the amount of \$9.95 plus \$2 handling instead of \$19.95 or charge to your VISA/MasterCard by including account number and expiration date to: DSA Financial Publishing Corp., Dept. W4221, 708 - 12th Street N.W., Canton, Ohio 44703. For even faster service, VISA/MasterCard or C.O.D., call toll free 1-800-321-0888, Ext. W4221.

Send for your Living Trust Kit within the next 15 days and you'll also get a unique Free Bonus Report on estate planning. The supplies are limited so you must act now.

*Want to save even more?* Do a favor for a relative or close friend and order a second Kit. That's 2 for only \$20 post-paid. Use your Kit for 90 risk-free days. Show it to your lawyer or advisor. If not 100% delighted -- don't keep it. Simply tear off the cover and send half of it back for a full refund. Fair enough?

Legal form books - even samples - have been challenged under an unusual Texas law. Therefore, DSA has prepared a special form free Trust Kit for Texas residents only. It's yours for \$7.95 plus \$2 handling.

A living trust is too important to put off another day. Especially when you can get the same kit thousands paid \$19.95 for at half price. So order by phone or mail now!

USS Altair AD-11 Assn. #18361  
 USS Amesbury DE-66/APD-46 #11240  
 USS Anteauss AV-51 #10845  
 USS Arctic AF-7 #18221  
 USS Ashtabula AO-51 (1949/55) #21696  
 USS Ashtabula ARL-30 #22979  
 USS ATR-3 (Normandy Invasion) #22089  
 USS Aukila AO-56 Assn #18676  
 USS Bache DD-470 #21176  
 USS Bagley DD-386 Assn #17424  
 USS Bainbridge DD-246 #18098  
 USS Bainbridge Commodores (Football Team + Spec Spec 1951/51) #14804  
 USS Bannett APA-5 #12053  
 USS Bataan CVL-29 (Air Grps. Incl.) #17516  
 USS Benewah APB-35 USS Tutuila ARG-4 #11135  
 USS Bennington CV/CA/CVS-20 (Air Photographers of OP Div) 1962 #18492  
 USS Blackfin SS-322 #17915  
 USS Blandy DD-943 #31005  
 USS Boggs DD-136/DMS-3/AG-19 #18478  
 USS Botebort APA-136 (1944/46) #11615  
 USS Bradford DD-545 #17939  
 USS Bradley DE-1041 (1968/75) #21751  
 USS Braine DD-630 #17441  
 USS Bremerton (CG-130/SSN-698) #18427  
 USS Briscoe APA-65 #17878  
 USS Brownson DD-868 #22646  
 USS Brush DD-745 #18076  
 USS California BB-44 Assn. (& Attach Marines) #17526  
 USS Candid AM-154 (1943/45) #11582  
 USS Capable AM-155 (1943/45) #1581  
 USS Caperton DD-650 #10781  
 USS Card CVE-11 & VC-1/B/9/12/55 #17496  
 USS Carmick DD-493/DMS-3 #18600  
 USS Casco AVP-12 (1943/45) #21814  
 USS Caution AM-158 (1943/45) #11580  
 USS Charles E. Brannon DE-446 (WWII) #28387  
 USS Charette DD-581 #18061  
 USS Chicago CA-14/CA-29/CA-136/CG-11/SSN-721 National Assn. #11925  
 USS Chikaskia AO-54 (1943/69) #18533  
 USS Clarence L. Evans DE-113 1944/45 #12020  
 USS Clinton Trasn. DE 72 #29428  
 USS Collector APB-36/USN Mercor APB-36 & USS Nueces APB-40 #21815  
 USS Collingsworth APA-146 #17825  
 USS Concord CL-10 #17515  
 USS Conserver ARS-39 #14652  
 USS Coos Bay AVP-25 (WWII 50th Avn) #11590  
 USS Courtney DE-1021 #28384  
 USS Cronin DE-704/DEC-704 #22730  
 USS Cumberland Sound AV-17 (1944/45) #22509  
 USS Currituck AV-7 #14598  
 USS Dade APA-39 #28316  
 USS Davison DD-618/DMS-37 #18387  
 USS DeHaven DD-727 1969/73 #28313  
 USS Dent APG-9 #21167  
 USS Des Moines CA-134 #18590  
 USS Dickens APA-161 (WWII) #11215  
 USS Donaldson (DE-44) #28343  
 USS Donnell DE-49 #28398  
 USS Donnelli DE-56 #14723  
 USS Doyen APA-1 (WWII 1943-46) #18686  
 USS Drexler DD-741 #18385  
 USS Duffy (DE-27) 50th Avn. #22901  
 USS Dugge APA-41 (50th Year Reunion!) #21950  
 USS Elmore APA-42 #17562  
 USS Engstrom DE-50 #17786  
 USS Enterprise CV-6, Band 51 #14690  
 USS Floyd B. Parks DD-884 #10572  
 USS Flying Fish SS-229 #19528  
 USS Fogg DE-57 Assn. #18683  
 USS Forrestal (CVAN/CV/AVT-59) #18458  
 USS Frank E. Evans DD-754 Assn. #22287  
 USS Franklin D. Roosevelt CV-42 & Air Wings #17696  
 USS Franks DD-554 #16150  
 USS Frybarger DE/DEC-705 #17690  
 USS Gardiners Bay AVP-39 1954 #14744  
 USS Gardiners Bay AVP-39 #11875  
 USS General G.O. Squire AP-130 #10752

USS George Clymer APA-27 (1942/44) #12044  
 USS Glacier AGB-4 (Deep Freeze 60/61) #28436  
 USS Glennon DD-840 #11190  
 USS Golden City AP-169 #12018  
 USS Grafing WWI #30112  
 USS Griswold DE-711 (WWII) #17836  
 USS Haggard DD-555 (WWII) #17528  
 USS Hamlin AV-15 WWII #20585  
 USS Hanover APA-116 (1944/46) #20880  
 USS Harlan DD-832 #26390  
 USS Harold J. Ellison DD-864 #14656  
 USS Hart DD-594 #10906  
 USS Hawkins DD-133/DRS-83 #17949  
 USS Hazelwood DD-531 / Desron 47 #18028  
 USS Heermann DD-532 #20058  
 USS Henderson DD-785 #11247  
 USS Henry A. Wiley DM-29 #11228  
 USS Hersey AP-148 #10772  
 USS Highlands APA-119 #21951  
 USS Hoel DD-533 #12031  
 USS Holland SS-323 (WWII) #18122  
 USS Hope ATF-71 #21233  
 USS Hopkins DMS-13 #14852  
 USS Horace A. Bass APD-124 #18679  
 USS Houston CA-30/CL-81 Assn. #10311  
 USS Hubbard DE-211/APD-53 1944/46 #18107  
 USS Hugh W. Hadley DD-774 #17837  
 USS Independence CV-62/CVA-62 & Air Wings #17567  
 USS Independence CVL-22 WWII #10874  
 USS Indiana ARL-37 #14851  
 USS Intrepid CVA-362 #11 & Sq (1943/74) 50th Avn. #30083  
 USS J. Fred Talbot DD-156/AG-81 #18672  
 USS Jack W. Wilke DE-800 #18382  
 USS James E. Kyle DD-787 #22154  
 USS Jenkins DD-432 #17761  
 USS John C. Butler DE-339 #17821  
 USS John J. Powers DE-528 #14769  
 USS John King DDG-3 #20474  
 USS John Land AP-167 (WWII) #21619  
 USS Joseph M. Auman AP-117 #11372  
 USS Jupiter AVS-8/SLCB-26 #17974  
 USS Kankakee AP-39 #18060  
 USS Kendall C Campbell DE-443 #18702  
 USS Kennegabo AO-81 (WWII) #17775  
 USS Klien DD-593 #14698  
 USS Kimberly DD-521 #18410  
 USS Kishnawke ARL-38 #14849  
 USS Kishwaukee AO-GR #22033  
 USS Lackawanna AO-40 #10704  
 USS Lassen AE-3 #12024  
 USS Lawrence DD-250 (1944/45) #11828  
 USS Layne CVS-32 #14720  
 USS Leahy DLG-16 #28385  
 USS Leonard F. Mason DD-852 #18093  
 USS Lesuth AK-125 #17358  
 USS Lexington CV-2 "Blue Ghost" Assn. #18686  
 USS Lexington CV-16 Club #11812  
 USS Lowndes APA-154 #17452  
 USS Ludlow DD-438 #17614  
 USS Magoffin APA-199 #18059  
 USS Manilla Bay CVE-61 (West Coast) Div 24, VC-7, VC-71, VC-72, VC-80 #21245  
 USS Matagorda AVP-22 #17923  
 USS Maumee AO-2 (1942/43) #11701  
 USS McCawley APA-4 & APA-10 (WWII) #11484  
 USS McCord DD-534 (WWII) #22633  
 USS Memphis CL-13 #30114  
 USS Menelaus APL-45/13 (Med. Cruise 1953/55) #28272  
 USS Midway CV-41 Assn. #22734  
 USS Molala ATF-106 #11394  
 USS Monticello AP-61/USN Europa AR-177 Assn. 1942/46 #17678  
 USS Montpelier APA-11 #14722  
 USS Montpelier CL-55/SSN-765 (Com-missioning) #11832  
 USS Mount Vernon AP-22 (WWII) #10440  
 USS Naos AK-105 #20119  
 USS Natrona APA-214 #22035

USS Nevada BB-36 & SSBN-733 Assn. #28362  
 USS New York BB-34 (WWI-WWII) (ALL HANDS 1914-48) #18294  
 USS Newman DE-205/APD-59 #17793  
 USS Nicholson DD-642 WWII #22519  
 USS Noa DD-941/3 #20092  
 USS Norman Scott DD-690 #17698  
 USS O'Hare DD-888 #22036  
 USS Oahu DD-2848  
 USS Oberender DE-344 #28317  
 USS Odax SS-466 #11271  
 USS Oklahoma BB-37 Assn #17830  
 USS Oklahoma BB-37 Survivors of Dec 7 1941 Sinking (Mar/NavY) #14833  
 USS Oliver Mitchell DE-417 #28381  
 USS Orleck DD-866 Assn. #22539  
 USS Osborn DD-946 #22619  
 USS Parsons DD-949 #11598  
 USS Pennsylvania BB-38 Assn (Officers, Crew, Mar) #17778  
 USS Peter H. Barnett APA-5 Assn #11696  
 USS Phaon ARB-3 #12058  
 USS Portland CA-33 #17847  
 USS Prairie AD-115 (Decommission 3/26/93) #18619  
 USS Presley DE-371 #11752  
 USS Prichett DD-561 #17324  
 USS Princeton CV-37/PH-45 Assn #14689  
 USS Regatta AF-51 #21696  
 USS Reno CL-96 #21282  
 USS Renville APA-22 #22306  
 USS Robert L. Wilson DD/DDE-847 Assn. #10168  
 USS Rogers DD/DR-876 #11123  
 USS Rowan DD-405 #18215  
 USS Rudyard Bay CVE B1, CV 77/96 Sqs. #18336  
 USS Sabine AO-25 #17392  
 USS Sampson DDG-10 #16279  
 USS San Carlos AVP-151 1944/46 So Pacific #W02 #12023  
 USS San Juan CL-54 Assn #17693  
 USS Santee CVE-58 Assn #21823  
 USS Satisfy ARL-23 #22978  
 USS Scania AK-40 #10835  
 USS Sea Fox SS-446 #17847  
 USS Shields DD-596 (Korean War) #18069  
 USS Sidonia AK-42 #21457  
 USS Sirius AK-15 #14798  
 USS Skagit AK-105 #17395  
 USS Snowden DE-246 #18037  
 USS Soley DD-707 Assn. All Years #18530  
 USS Sphinx ARL-24 #14478  
 USS Spiegel Grove LSD-32 (1956/91) #12026  
 USS Springfield CL-66/CLG-7/SSN-761 Bluejackets Inc #18364  
 USS Starly DD-478 (WWII) #11523  
 USS Stickell DD/DR-888 #17564  
 USS Suamico AO-49 #28307  
 USS Subik AK-121 (1943/46) #12049  
 USS Swallow AMS-36 (1950/52) #11677  
 USS Sylvania AFS-2/AKA-44 (WWII-Present) #11206  
 USS Takamis Bay CVE-89 #28431  
 USS Tate AKA-70 #12035  
 USS Tatoshi (1942/46) #18337  
 USS Taussig DD-746 #18077  
 USS Thomas F. Nickel DE-587 #18699  
 USS Thompson DD-627/DMS-38 (WWII Korea) #17569  
 USS Thuban AKA-19 #22702  
 USS Ticonderoga CV/CVA/CVS-14/CG-47 #11791  
 USS Toraja LSD-26 Assn. #10436  
 USS Towner ARL-77 #14610  
 USS Trapper ACM-9 (WWII) #22997  
 USS Traflet DD-530 #17685  
 USS Trenton CL-11 #18684  
 USS Truckee AO-147 Plank Owners Assn. #11301  
 USS Tutuila ARG-4 #17390  
 USS Uvalde AKA-86 (1944/68) #18396  
 USS Vinconnes CL-64 Crew #18705  
 USS Vulcan AR-5 (1943/46) #10779  
 USS Wainwright DD-62/DD-419/DLG-28/CG-28 (All Eras) #17578  
 USS Warhawk AP-168 #11739  
 USS Washington BB-56 #14533  
 USS Wesson DE-184 #10112  
 USS Willard Keith DD-775 (WWII) #22302  
 USS Winged Arrow AP-170 #17707

USS Wyandot AKA-82 #17916  
 USS Zane DMS-14/DD-337 #18119  
 USS Zeal AM-131 Assn. #10683  
 V-12 Pgm. Univ. of Louisville (50th Avn.) #22994  
 V-12/V-5 Pgm. Western Michigan Univ. (1943-45) #28409  
 V-12/V-5 Pgm. Doane College (50th Avn.) #11969  
 V-175 (50th Avn. All Personnel) #11993  
 VB-111 Vets Organization #14826  
 VB-98/V-25 (1943/44) #28399  
 VC-13 #11754  
 VC-35 #22292  
 V-41 Fleet Photographic Sq. 1 Assn. #22048  
 VD-2 Photo Sq. #12047  
 VF-24 & VT-24 (1953 USS Yorktown Cruis) #10357  
 VH-6 Air Sea Rescue Assn. (1945) #12039  
 VP-6 (1950/52) #28340  
 VP/VPB-204 P.B.M. Mariners Sq. WWII #22744  
 VPB-20 (P.M. Sq. 20 (Marines)) (WW II South Pacific) #28444  
 VR-13 (1943/45) #28334  
 VT-21 (WWII) #11319  
 VLJ-4 #11968  
 WATC's Toro, Santa Ana CA (1953/56) #30109  
 W.M.-769 Vietnam 1969 #14847  
 Yard Yut Sailors Nat'l Assn (CG & Navy) #14738  
 YG-48 #14468  
 YMS-118 #17378  
 YMS-179 (1944/45) #12061  
 YMS-295 (1944/45) #11440  
 YMS-306 (Operation Crossroads 1946) #30094

## Marines

1st 155th Hq. Bn. #28418  
 1st 11th Bn., 2nd Bn., E. Btry. (Korea) #17103  
 1st Mar. Div., 5th Sgt., 1st Bn. (1/5) Vietnam #22179  
 1st Mar. Div., 4.5 "Rock" Bat., Korea #14808  
 1st Mar. Div. 5th Rgt, 1st Bn. C. Co. (Hsin Hc. China 1946/47) #14814  
 1st Mar. Div, 1st Rgt, 2nd Bat., - Vietnam Era Only 1965-71 #14799  
 1st Rgt., 3rd Bn., "Mike" Co. (Vietnam 1967/68) #20660  
 3rd Air Wg., 23 Air Grp., 23rd Serv. Sq. #21335  
 3rd Marines, 1st Bn (1968/69) Vietnam #12127  
 3rd Mar. Div., Disbursing Office, FMM #14330  
 5th Mar. Div. Assn. #21033  
 5th Mar. Div., 13 Rgt., 3rd Bn., I Bat. (Iwo Jima WWII) #14817  
 6th Rgt., 1st Bn. Mr. Pool (Camp LeJune 1955/56) #11944  
 8th 155 Longtun Gm Bn #14771  
 10th Amph. Trac. Bn., A. Co. (WWII) #28379  
 10th Special Basic Class (1951) #11653  
 11th DEF Bn #14772  
 41St OC/44th reserve Officers class 1944 #14811  
 Adm. Nimitz Staff Reunion #1088  
 Air Base Grp. 2 #11865  
 Avn. Supply Marines (West) #17127  
 AWS-13 (WWII) #11734  
 AWS-13 (WWII) #12025  
 AWS-8 (WWII) #11716  
 Boot Camp Parris Island S.C. Platoon-374 1945 #14838  
 China Marines Assn. #17183  
 Iwo Jima Survivors, Hogan's Goats #1/127th Mar. 5th Mar Div #17970  
 MAG-52 Serv. Sq. (1944/45) #11558  
 Mar. Det. 1st Nevada SS-36 #22890  
 Marine Det. Bermuda (1953-57) #14813  
 Marines Of Korean Conflict #28394  
 MAWS-7/MGCS-7/MACS-7 Assn. (WWII) #17190

Please turn page

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You were home. Safe. You'd served your country well.  
And now you could get on with life. And look after your kids ... and  
promise you would never leave them again.

Where have the years gone?

That curly-headed girl and skinned-knee boy of yours are grown now.  
But you've never forgotten how much you missed them while you were away  
... and how much you loved them.

And you love them yet ...

... and now you can show them how much you care with an  
exclusive *Term Life Plan* from *The American Legion*.

So that when the time comes you must leave once again ... they will have  
a part of you. Looking after them still.

*For more information about the exclusive Term Life  
Plan for our members of The American Legion, please fill  
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Plan from The American Legion. I know there's no obligation.

Name

Street Address

City, State, ZIP

AMC2  
SRH-1962UT

Mojave Station Hq. Sq. (1942/58) #21035  
Mojave Desert Marines (All Base)  
Personnel-Male & Female (WWII)  
#11738  
NAS Antigua, Leeward Islands 1941/42  
Mar Det. #14620  
Pelleu Survivors (1944/94) #30080  
VMD-254 (WWII) #11710  
VMF-115 Pilots & Crewmen #14732  
VMF-121 (WWII) #11711  
VMF-123 (WWII) #11721  
VMF-213 (WWII) #11712  
VMF-215 #30007  
VMF-218 (WWII) #11707  
VMF-225 (WWII) #11705  
VMF-324 (WWII) #11717  
VMF-451 (WWII) #11714  
VMF-452 (WWII) #11715  
VMF-511 (WWII) #11718  
VMF-512 (WWII) #11719  
VMF-514 (WWII) #11722  
VMJ-3 (1953/55) #14770  
VMO-251 (WWII) #11709  
VMO-351 (WWII) #11720  
VMO-MVF 155 Ftr Sqd #14747  
VMSB-231 (WWII) Ace of Spades Sq  
#10940  
VMSB-235 & VMSB-236 (WWII) #14332  
VMSB-236 (WWII) #11706  
VMSB-332 (WWII) #11713  
VMTB-134 1st MAW (1943/46) #17153

## Air Force

2nd AF Hq & Hq Sq. Officers/EM (WWII)  
GUAM) #14806  
2nd AF Hq & Hq Sq. Officers/EM/Civ  
(WWII) Spokane WA, Co Springs)  
#14807  
5th AF, 69th Ftr Bmbr. Sq., "Werewolves"  
Assn. (Korea) #15068  
5th AF, 17th Recon. Grp., 71st Recon. Sq.  
#22057  
5th AF, 35th Ftr. Cntrl. Grp. #28407  
5th Mobile Comm. Grp., Vehicle Dispatch  
(Vietnam) #22562  
7th AF, 19th Ftr. Carrier Grp. (Hawaii)  
WWII) #28393  
8th AF, 306th Bomb Grp., 369th Sq.  
#22318  
8th AFHS (Pennsylvania State Chapter)  
#14737  
8th Tac Ftr Wing, Avionics Maint Sq  
(UBON) #13774  
9th AF Assn. (AAF/AF) 1942/Present  
#10800  
9th AF, 362nd Ftr Grp. Assn. #14743  
9th AF, 394th Sig. Co. Assn. #28415  
11th Air Force Assn. (Including AAF)  
#15074  
11th Bombardment Gp., (H) Assoc.  
#15172  
13th Bomb Sq. Assn (Korea) "Grim  
Reapers" #10387  
13th Ftr. Intercept. Sq. #1405  
15/20th Weather Sq. FEAF #21375  
15th AF, 2nd Bomb Grp. Assn (1921/47) &  
2nd Bomb Wing (1947/81) #15135  
28th Bomb Sq. (B-29 CD Okinawa,  
Korean War) #21639  
42nd Bomb Sqdn, WPAFB, B-52 Crew  
#14734  
47th Ftr Carrier Sq, 313 Ftr Carrier Grp.  
#28354  
50th College Training Det. Middle Ga  
College, 1944 #28370  
54th Air Disarmament Sq. WWII Lechfield,  
Germany #14796  
55th CA Regt., B Btry., Ft. Kamehameha HI  
(WWII) #12004  
55TH Stral. Recon. Wing (M) 14th Air  
Postal Unit #21448  
65th TC Sq. #14741  
66th Ftr. Intercepter Sq. 10th Air Div.  
#28376  
59th Ftr. Bomb Sq. (Korea) #28350  
75th Air Dpt. Wing (192/58) #15050  
195th Bomb Grp (B-17's over Berlin)  
#28357  
99th Bomb Grp. (H) #15147  
301st Air Serv. Grp., HQ & HQ Sq. #22298

319th Ftr Int. Sq. Bunker Hill, Korea,  
Homestead #15094  
330th Bomb Grp. Assn #21842  
416th Bomb Group WWII #28422  
444th Ftr. Inter. Sq. #10045  
500th Bomb Sqdn Assn., 345th Bomb Grp  
#14775  
525th F.I.S. (Bitburg Germany) #14792  
623rd AC & W / 2152nd Comm. Sq.  
(Naha, Okinawa/All Yrs.) #1471  
775th AC&W Sq 1950/70 #28330  
851st Avn. Engr. Bn. A Co. #28363  
1897th Engr. Avn. Bn. C Co. #21642  
2152nd Comm. Sq. #11807  
3080th Avn. Dpt. Grp., Caribou AFB  
Maine, #11981  
380th Tech Trng. Gp. Radio Ops #76601  
#28366  
4080th Stral Recon Wing (ALL SQUAD-  
RONS) #15190  
6415th Inst. Sq. (APO 815, Iwo Jima  
1953/55) #21754  
6925th Radio Grp. Mob. (Philippines  
1952/53) #11369  
300th. Mil. Cal. Ctl. (MDAP,  
(France/Germany 1951/54) #21498  
7407th HQ Support Sq., NATO Florence,  
Italy (1951/54) #22286  
Aero Med. Evac. Assn. (Including Attached  
Unit) #15134  
Air Force Post Office & Courier Assn., #10869  
Class Of 44-A Luke AFB #14729  
Foster Field Assn. #21473  
Foster/Alce Fields, Matagorda Gunney  
Range, #15099  
GEE/IMA #14715  
JAG Vietnam Veterans Bar Assn. Inc. #22295  
Lone Forgotten Squadron Of England /  
15th Bomb Sq. #28337  
Stewart AFB, All Personnel (Smyrna, TN  
1948/70) #11922  
USAF D I Organization, Schierstein  
Slueths #14733  
WAF Veterans Assn. #21518

## Army Air Force

1st BAD (Mary Ann Site 1942/45) #22797  
2nd Airborne Sq. (WWII) #11289  
2nd SAD (Strat. Air Dpt.) Assn. #16981  
2ND SAD #21343  
3rd Emer Rescue Sq, 3rd Emer. Rescue  
Grp. (S.W. Pacific) #16981  
5th AF, 433rd TC Grp., 69th TC Sq.  
(1942/45) #22796  
5th AF, 66th TC Bomb Sq. #14767  
5th AF, 13th Bomb Sq. Assn. WWII, 3rd  
Bomb Grp. #22224  
5th AF, 1130th Avn. M.P. Co. (WWII)  
#28439  
5th Bomb Grp. (H) Assn. (WWII) #11647  
5th Bomb Grp., WWII South Pacific  
#16912  
6th AF, 29th Bomb Sqdn. (Galapagos  
1943/45) #20210  
6th Aviation Cadets College Training Det.  
Bucknell Univ. #28323  
7th AF, 13th Serv. Grp., 489th Serv. Sq.  
#22668  
7th AF, 1124th Gunners School (Hickam  
Fld.HI 1943/44) #30133  
7th Aircraft Maint. Unit (Floating) #22328  
7th Tech. Sch. Sq., Barracks 1456 (Truxal  
Fld. HI 1943/44) #22511  
8th AF, 465th Bomb Grp. Assn. #21888  
8th AF, 357th Ftr. Grp. Assn. #20294  
8th AF, 32nd Dpt. Repair #14265  
8th AF, 32nd TC Sq. (WWII) #21446  
8th AF, 393rd Bomb Grp. (H), 409th Bomb  
Sq. #22529  
8th AF, 2006th Ord. Maint. Co. #12057  
8th, 12th & 15th AF, 97th Bomb Grp.  
Assn. (WWII) #10435  
9th AF Assn. (AAF/AF) #12045  
9th AF, 394th Bomb Grp., 564th Bomb Sq.  
(WWII) #16831  
9th Photo Tech Sqdn. (Guam 1945/46)  
#28427  
13th AF, 42nd Bomb Grp. (M), 100th Sq.  
#22666  
19th Bomb Grp. Assn. #10598

30th Bombardment Grp. (WWII) Assn  
#16829  
32nd Photo Sq, 5th RCN Grp (Texas)  
1942-44 USS Hamilton #14800  
49th Bomb Grp. (WWII) #10780  
55th TC Sq. #1515  
55th TC Grp. (WWII) #16760  
68th Air Serv. Grp. (China WWII) #16894  
69th Station Comp. Sq. (ETO WWII)  
#14277  
73rd Bomb Wing, Assn, B-29 Grps.,  
Assigned Units/Sqdn. (WWII) #17001  
81st Airborne Squadron (WWII) #11587  
95th Bomb (H) Grp. (WWII) Assn. B-52's  
#16819  
98th Bomb Grp (B-24) WWII #14824  
114th Avn. Co., "Knights of the Air" Assn  
(Vietnam/Panama) #14099  
136th Radio Security Det #14835  
149th Air Force Airways Comm. Sys. Sq.  
#14815  
301st Bomb Grp., 419th Sq. #21648  
307th Signal Co. Wing - (WWII) #10212  
325th Ftr. Grp. "Checkmates" Assn. (WWII)  
#22757  
334th Ftr Interceptor Sqd, 4th Ftr Wing.  
(Kimpo Air Base) #28412  
344th Signal Co. Wing (Caserta, Italy  
1944/45) #20122  
345th Bomb Grp., 500th Bomb Sq. #20946  
376th Bomb Grp, 515th Sq. #28419  
382nd Bomb Grp, 536/537/538/539th  
Bomb Sq. (WWII) #16985  
394th Bomb Grp., 586th Bomb Sq. #14274  
394th Bomb Grp., 587th Bomb Sq. (WWII)  
#12032  
413th Ftr. Grp., 34th Ftr. Sq. #16896  
432nd Signal Const Bn #14776  
442nd TC Grp (WWII) #16933  
448th Bmb. Grp., 712nd Or. Sq. (Norwich  
1943-45) #28446  
456th Bomb Grp. Assn. #21723  
474th Ftr. Grp. Assn. (WWII) #11931  
613th AC&W Sq. (Misawa AFB Japan  
1947/50) #28360  
851st Avn. Engr. Bn. #16993  
877th AC & W Sqdn. #2266  
877th Sq. Co., 16th AGD #22353  
904th Signal Co. Dpt. Avn. Assn. #16830  
929th Signal Bn., 1717th Signal Co.  
#22962  
1304th Bengal Wing (CBI/Barrackpore,  
India) #22958  
1403rd AFB Base Unit, Members of ATC  
(Preswick, Scotland) #28396  
1901st Engr. Avn. Bn. (Okinawa WWII)  
#11806  
3718th Sq., Flt. 3405 (Air Trng.  
Cmnd/Lackland AFB 1948) #12040  
13th Sgdn., Flt. 3407 #12042  
Altus Army Airfield 50th Avn. Assn.  
#11943  
ATC, 1252 AAFBU (Casablanca, North  
Africa) #14713  
Aviation Cadets #16820  
B-24B-29 Murco CAW (WWII) #16936  
CTD Concord College Det #1724  
Liberal Army Airfield (WWII) #14825  
Muroc Air Base, California, 421st #22754  
P-47 Thunderbolt Pilots Assn. (WWII)  
#16839  
Pampa Army Airfield #18707  
Pilot Classes 44-H-J #10068  
Pilot Class 44-3 (All Commands) #16822  
Pilot Class 45-B (Marfa, Tx & Luke Field,  
Az) #14305  
Pilot Class 43-B (Luke & Williams Fld. AZ)  
#21649  
Pilot Class 43-C (W.Coast Trng. Cmd.)  
#22861  
Pilot Class 44-3 (Marfa TX) #1513  
Pilot Class 45-1 (Avn. Cadets-Tulare/  
Merced/Pecos 1944) #30013  
Pilot Class 45-B Luke Field, AZ #28351  
Pilot Class 42-B #15141  
Tonopah Army Air Field (1941-45) #18708

## Coast Guard

Aux Tug Sailors Nat'l Assn #14740  
Combat Units #28326

Galveston Aux. Coastal Patrol (1945)  
#12012  
Galveston/Texas City Pilot Boat (1943/44)  
#12013  
Horse/JEEP Patrol, High Island TX  
(1941/45) #12016  
LORAN Station, Simeri Crichi, Italy (All  
years) #22800  
LST-202 (WWII) 50th Anniversary #11421  
LST-202 (WWII) #11454  
LST-763 #10838  
Rescue Flotilla 1 (Normandy 1944)  
#22659  
Rescue Tug Sailors Nat'l Assn (Includes  
Navy) #14736  
US Army FS 344 (1945) #12014  
USCG #3489 (1942) #12011  
USCG Cutter Patrol W-308 (WWII)  
#11424  
USCGC Chambers WDE-491 #17047  
USCGC Citrus W-300 (WWII) #28433  
USCGC Courier WAGR-410 #22399  
USCGC General Greene (1942/45)  
#21760  
USCGC Modoc W-46, N. Atlantic Convoy  
(1941/45) #10036  
USCGC Nike WPC-112 (INCLUDES  
WPC SAILORS) #14791  
USCGC Rockaway WAGO-377/WAVP-  
377 #22355  
USS Admiral W.L. Capps AP-121  
#11369  
USS Centaurus AK-17 #11272  
USS Harveson DE-136 (1943/47) #10081  
USS Key West FF-17 #10431  
USS Key West FF-17 WWII #18137  
USS Lowe DE-325 #21731  
USS Thetis AKA-53 WWII #14773  
USS Woonsocket PF-32 (WWII) #10537

## Merch. Marines

SS Bunker Hill (Tanker) 1942-44 #22597  
SS James Jackson #11894  
SS John Marshall (Liberty Ship 1945)  
#11873  
SS Lounsdale (Liberty Ship WWII) #11895

## Miscellaneous

14th Air Postal Unit (Ramsey Air Base,  
Puerto Rico & Korea 1950/54) #28378  
Allied Staff, Berlin (USCIB) #22661  
American Defenders of Bataan &  
Corregidor #17303  
China-Burma-India Veterans Assn. (All  
Branches) #17256  
China-Burma-India Vets Assn Of Iowa  
#21736  
China-Burma-India Vets Assn Of Indiana  
#14834  
CINCPAC Staff (Marines/Army/Navy)  
#11634  
Dakota (Navy/Marines, Coast Guard) Bull  
Session IV #21683  
DCA-Europe #18697  
Great SW Vietnam Vets (All Branches)  
#14803  
Kentucky Med Corps & Combat Medics  
(All Branches of Service) #14788  
Korean War Veterans Assn. - Eddie Lyons  
Chapter of FL #17246  
LZ Bluegrass Inc (All Vietnam Vets)  
#28432  
Pearl Harbor Survivors Assn. (Invited, All  
1942 Men & Women) #17288  
Persian Gulf Command Vets (WWII) Org  
#21738  
Ret. Officers FL Assn. Military/PH  
Serv./NOAA Officers (TROA) #11967  
Shemys Veterans Assn. (All Branches)  
#22945  
St. Anthony of Padua Grammar School  
(Brooklyn NY) 1953 #14818  
U.S.D.C #14827  
Undersea Service Veterans #22043  
Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Assn. #17258

# "How I Conquered Arthritis Pain!"

-Frankie Avalon

Years ago, I awoke one morning with severe pain in the fingers of both my hands. I looked at my watch, quickly showered, dressed, and headed for my regular golf game with my friends, praying that the pain would go away before I arrived at the country club. Well, the pain did not go away. As I attempted to grasp my golf club, the pain in the joints of my fingers was so severe, that I had to leave my pals and cancel my plans for the day.

I immediately went to my doctor who advised me that I was suffering from arthritis in my fingers. I told him that I needed to do something about the pain, especially since I was scheduled to start shooting 'Back To The Beach' with Annette Funicello in just a few weeks! He gave me two choices...take aspirin (no good, for it upsets my stomach) or cortisone shots (absolutely not, because of the possible side effects).

For the next few weeks, I must have tried every over the counter pain remedy on the market - all of which did nothing except make me smell like a walking hospital! On the very first day of filming with Annette, a scene called for me to knock on a door. It was embarrassing when the director had to stop the film to ask why I was using the palm of my hand instead of my knuckles to knock. The explanation upset me a great deal!

In a desperate search to find anything that would help, I finally discovered Zero Pain™ through an herbalist friend of mine. When I tried it, I couldn't believe the results. This stuff really did the trick. The pain was gone. The manufacturer explained to me that Zero Pain™ is a unique herbal formula featuring 'Capsaicin' extract

that works by penetrating deep and actually blocks the pain signals that lead to the brain. All I know is that it really worked! I was so excited about the product, that I have since dedicated a great deal of effort to share this amazing product with everyone. It turns out that I'm not the only one it has helped!

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Frankie Avalon, Dept. ZP5064  
 One American Way, Roanoke, VA 24016

# IN WASHINGTON

Continued from page 21

grams. But in recent years, a more disturbing reason has emerged. Where Roosevelt and Truman could count on the steadfastness of their national security advisers, Johnson was let down by those he trusted.

Eleven years after Johnson's death, and 16 years after the Tet Offensive, Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, LBJ's principal military adviser, confessed that as early as 1965 or 1966, even as the American buildup in Vietnam began, he believed the war "could not be won militarily."

The comparison with his counterpart, North Vietnam's Defense Minister Vo Nguyen Giap, is deadly. Where McNamara's will to win was broken at the very beginning, Giap "spoke of fighting ten, fifteen, twenty, fifty years until final victory," journalist Stanley Karnow noted.

Adding insult to injury, in the Aug. 3, 1992, issue of *Newsweek* McNamara acknowledged that even as he was sending American troops into a war he believed could not be won, he was kissing up to the leaders of the anti-war move-

ment and inviting them to his home for dinner.

McNamara's successor, Washington wheeler-dealer Clark Clifford, was no better. Twenty-three years after he was brought in to support Johnson's policies, Clifford brags in his 1991 memoir, *Counsel to the President*, that from the first he set out to "impress upon the President that our posture is basically so impossible that we have to find some way out."

But as historian Lewis Sorley notes, "Far from convincing Johnson, Clifford simply hamstring him." As Sorley concludes, "It is one thing to seek to influence the formulation of policy, quite another to faithfully undermine that policy once formulated. Clifford represents himself as being very proud of doing the latter."

It was the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) who struck the killing blow. Rather than bolster Johnson in the wake of the Tet Offensive, the JCS further undermined his will and resolve.

In the wake of the attack on the *USS Pueblo* by the North Koreans, and with a crisis appearing to develop in Berlin, the JCS had come to believe that mobilizing the reserves was necessary to bolster the Vietnam-depleted U.S. strategic reserves.

The Joint Chiefs could have made a straight-forward request for additional manpower to meet these strategic requirements. They also could have told Johnson that Vietnam was not as bad as it seemed.

Instead, they chose to argue for more troops by portraying the war in Vietnam as much worse than it really was. They used Tet as a pretext to force Johnson to mobilize the reserves.

And they double-dealed Gen. William C. Westmoreland, the U.S. commander in the field, as well.

In a visit to Saigon, JCS Chairman, Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, convinced Westmoreland to request an additional 206,000 troops, which could be used to take the offensive in Vietnam. When he briefed the President, however, Wheeler made no mention of this new strategy. Rather, he painted a gloomy picture of the situation in Vietnam.

But these stratagems didn't work. Indeed, they backfired. Instead of precipitating a reserve call-up, they triggered a major re-evaluation of the war.

When the request for 206,000 more men was leaked to the press, the fate of Vietnam was sealed. The public saw it as proof-positive that they had been lied to and that Tet had not been a victory as claimed, but a devastating military defeat. Why else the enormous request

for more troops? From that moment on, public support for the war was gone forever.

Through their duplicity, the leaders in Washington, civilian and military alike, turned the tactical victory won at so great a cost on the battlefield into a crushing strategic defeat. □

# IN THE FIELD

Continued from page 22

up for the Viet Cong losses, but they couldn't replace the experience, organization and local knowledge the Viet Cong possessed.

The Americans in Saigon dimly perceived that something like this was happening. They responded with a determined campaign to win control of rural Vietnam and to smash the Viet Cong's remaining forces. Between 1969 and 1971, the Americans and their South Vietnamese allies came as close as they would ever come to winning the battle for the countryside.

Yet the Americans and the South Vietnamese were never able to turn their advantage to decisive victory. The Viet Cong stubbornly hung on, though hounded by government security forces and beset by heavy casualties and supply shortages.

When American troop withdrawals began in 1969, the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese again challenged Saigon's control.

If the United States had only been more patient and slowed or halted the withdrawal of its forces during 1969 and 1970, would the stalemate have continued? Or would Saigon have eventually found a road to victory?

The Saigon government seemed no more able in 1970 or 1971 to end corruption and win the loyalty of the people than it had in 1967 and 1968. And the cost of maintaining the stalemate continued to be too high. Almost as many Americans died in Vietnam in 1969 as in 1967; and the casualties for 1970, the last year that sizable numbers of U.S. troops remained in Vietnam, still almost equaled those of 1966.

Both sides won and lost in the battles of '68 and '69, of which Tet was the decisive kickoff. The communists lost some of their most effective forces and weakened their hold on the countryside. But they succeeded in getting the American public to impose a time limit for U.S. troops in Vietnam. The Americans gained a military edge on the battlefield, but they were never able to escape that time limit. □

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# SCREAMING

Continued from page 22

firefight stops, and the jungle lies quiet.

Fear seeps into your gut, in spite of the soothing apathy induced by the painkiller. You wonder who won. Would a VC face appear above you in a moment? Would the last thing you see be a dirty 18-inch bayonet as it sank into your guts?

Unbidden, the memory of Lorne pops into your mind. You remember how your squad found him, dangling from a tree, his testicles in his mouth and his lips sewn together. You remember his eyes. They were open, and even in death the horror showed through. As he choked to death, his last view of the world was the jungle and "Charlie."

The memory rips through your mind as the shooting starts again. You find hidden strength fueled by terror, and stagger to your feet. Smoke, dust, screaming and cursing surround you. The din engulfs you and batters you like a hurricane. Fear cauterizes your wounds as you seek the enemy. The rifle in your hand snaps and chatters. The air is filled with angry steel bees.

"Get down!" a voice howls and you stare down at the guy blankly. He reaches up, grabs your pistol belt and jerks you to the ground.

A grenade pops into the dust next to you. Without thinking, you toss it back. The detonation is lost among the concussions of half a dozen other explosions.

Someone down the line screams, "They've breached the berm. Watch your ass!"

You roll over in time to see an AK coming at you. You can see "Charlie" squeezing the trigger, but nothing is coming out. He keeps coming, and all you can see is that damned dirty bayonet. You throw up a hand in reflex. The sharp-edged metal strikes your palm and impacts on bone. The cheap Chinese blade breaks, and your other hand raises your '16 and you fire. Scratch one "Charlie."

There's another explosion. You feel yourself lifted off the ground. The dirt rushes to your face, and you try to throw out your hands to break the impact, but your arms don't obey. When you hit, everything goes blank.

You don't remember being loaded on the Medivac, but you vaguely recall a long hallway and tense voices. Your first clear thought comes when you open your eyes and find a nurse stand-

ing next to your bed.

Everything hurts, yet in a perverse way, you welcome the pain. It's real. It guarantees you are alive. You remember where you were hit and you try to reach down, but the nurse grabs your hands. "Take it easy, soldier," she says, and her voice is like heaven.

You try to ask her if you have any legs left, but all you can do is croak. Yet, she understands. She tells you you're OK and gives you a tiny drink of something. She pats your arm, smiles and says, "Now, I have to go look after the guys that are really hurt."

You force your lips to move. "Did we win?"

She smiles as she turns to leave. "You kicked their ass, troop. You kicked their ass." □

## TAPS

Taps notices are limited to only those Legionnaires who have held high national or department offices. We regret that we cannot extend the honor to all members.

Dr. William J. Denton, PR Department Adjutant (1956-57), Department Vice Commander (1958-60).  
Donald H. Janssen, KS Department Commander (1965-66).  
Rankin E. Mathis Jr., TN Department Judge Advocate (1953-54), Department Vice Commander, (1958-59), Department Commander (1960-61).  
Herman H. Spohn, GA Department Vice Commander (1961-63), Department Commander (1963-64).

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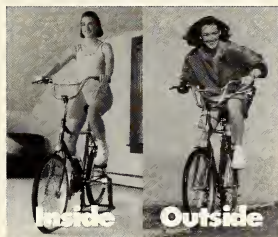
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# IN HANOI

*Continued from page 23*

side the heavy iron door of the Zoo Annex, we'd been getting "short rations" for several months. The twice-a-day, 10-gallon soup pail got to our cell first and, since they had no soup ladle, the guards would tip the rusty pail and pour the gray-green soup into our chipped metal bowls. Whatever vegetables were there had sunk to the bottom and all the three of us ever got was the thin watery liquid on top.

How we yearned for one of the pieces of potato, or one of the slivers of fatback we knew had to be at the bottom of the pail. We had laughed the day Metzger picked up a fuzzy black caterpillar, bit it in half, and unselfishly offered me the other half. We had laughed, but we ate the much-needed protein.

Preoccupied as we were with anticipation of our coming Tet "feast," we didn't notice the commotion outside the camp until the chanting voices grew to a loud roar. Then we realized that the loudspeakers lining the street, which usually piped propaganda to the citizenry for an hour every evening, were

louder than usual and were literally whipping the noisy crowd into a frenzied mob.

For three or four weeks we had been aware that something unusual was happening. A steady stream of ancient trucks lumbered past the camp 24 hours a day, no doubt loaded with war materiel and headed south. Falling chunks of plaster from our crumbling ceiling dislodged by the concussions of heavy artillery had forced us to crawl under our board beds on more than one occasion.

We also knew SAM missiles and 100-millimeter guns now ringed our camp. Here they could fire with impunity at U.S. aircraft, whose pilots would never bomb a POW camp.

Even the guards, who always reflected in their attitudes toward us the official word they got at the nightly political rallies, confirmed that something unusual was afoot.

"We defeat U.S. imperialists!" the guard we called WTG (World's Tallest Gook) had shouted with a smirk one day as he strode by our cell.

"War over soon!" said another guard we called BO Plenty for obvious reasons.

The perennial optimist, I'd decided all the signs said we'd be going home soon, and I so informed my cellmates.

Mercifully, we didn't foresee that we would be there five long years after this first lunar new year in captivity, and that the 1968 Tet Offensive would be a major turning point in the Vietnam War. □

# AT HOME

*Continued from page 23*

rhapsodizing about their "rice roots democracy," the hard-core Left had been working for the victory of the enemy, meeting with NLF (National Liberation Front) representatives in Czechoslovakia in 1967, and periodically traveling to Havana to coordinate strategy.

We saw the Viet Cong as more than a guerrilla force. They were also an all-purpose metaphor for the power of the individual against the bullet-headed technocrats like Defense Secretary Robert MacNamara, who ran The Machine.

And we regarded Tet as the most daring of their wily existentialist maneuvers. Cities across the country were falling; the United States had lost control in rural areas; the South Vietnamese forces were caving in; and Khe Sanh was another Dien Bien Phu.

Of course none of this was true. The Viet Cong were ordered out of the jungle to launch a kamikaze attack and as a result were decimated as a fighting force. This meant, among other things, that there would be no internal opposition to Hanoi's brutal conquest of the South later on.

As the lie of Tet went unanswered, we knew that the only domino which really mattered in this war—the one which would set off a chain reaction of defeatism—was American public opinion. Now it had begun to teeter. We sensed a new power. We were amazed to see our leftist clichés work their way into the mainstream media.

Before the spring of 1968, only a few journalists would have printed (as Harrison Salisbury did) North Vietnamese press handouts as truth. But afterward, misreporting of the war became pervasive and systematic.

Most importantly, after the events of the spring of 1968, a symbiosis developed between the hard Left, with its newborn fantasies of revolutionary violence, and Left liberals who wheeled their baby strollers to mass marches and claimed that all they wanted was to give peace a chance.

Both factions had decided that it was the centrists, not the right wingers, who were the enemy in America's political culture. They collaborated to make sure that this center could not hold when they descended on the Democratic Convention in Chicago.

This was our Tet, the defeat that became a victory by interpretation. It was the exact moment when we killed the Democratic Party, which had been the center of balance and gravity during the postwar years. We inhabited its corpse and remade it in our image.

For the hard-core Left looking for an excuse to begin the revolution, Tet was a goad to action. For the liberal Left preening in its moral superiority, Tet was the halfway house it entered as anti-war and exited as anti-American.

The images of Tet, so compelling at the time they were flashing across the screen of our national consciousness, create a different feeling now. Looking at them and knowing what was to come after, I understand better than ever the extent to which the Left in this country was then the tunnel at the end of the light. □

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# VETVOICE

Continued from page 6

by applying glib "labels" to their non-favorite candidates instead of respectful titles; by completely ignoring many newsworthy events; and by endlessly quoting think tanks that cater to their own viewpoints.

Joan E. Battey  
Apalachin, N.Y.

I would like the press to find out more about the way politicians do business, not about their personal lives. For example, the press should investigate more of their decisions and evaluate their effectiveness in office.

Jamie Rubison  
Shelbina, Mo.

## Unequal For All

I am furious about the "equalization" bill that would make widows' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) base monthly payments \$750. This loss is very painful.

We are now entitled to no more than the bride of a false recruit. Is this equalization?

What next? Is Congress going to "equalize" all congressmen's pensions to \$750? Will a one-term congressman's pension be the same as someone who's been in office for many years? Ho, ho, ho.

Betty Turner  
San Antonio

## Eyeing The Budget

The article "Eyes in the Sky" (December) raises the question do we need the Cyclops satellite system? I say yes, but why does the U.S. taxpayer always foot the bill when a defense system protects many other countries?

Robert J. Fay  
Middletown, Ohio

## New Guinea Kudos

Your coverage of the WWII battles in New Guinea was exemplary ("The Legion Remembers," September). As a veteran of a year's service in New Guinea during World War II and a lifelong journalist, I was delighted by the articles, photography and general layout.

Many forgot that the enemy was stopped and turned back during those

early days in New Guinea and Guadalcanal. The insight and understanding displayed in the articles proved the competence of Daniel S. Wheeler, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief.

I was surprised to learn that he hadn't served in New Guinea during wartime. My compliments on the improved vitality and substance of THE AMERICAN LEGION magazine.

Donovan M. Kramer Sr.  
Casa Grande, Ariz.

## Article Hits A Homer

Thank you for the interesting and exciting article "Newbury Park Hits It Big" (November). Newbury Park is an outstanding team, winning the championship in only their second year of competition in American Legion Baseball.

It was also amazing that so many players received awards. I hope to see more articles like it.

John Brown  
Shelbina, Mo.

## Correction

In Big Issues (December), Rep. Pat-sy T. Mink's party affiliation was incorrectly listed. She is a Democrat.

## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded Life Memberships by their posts.

Life membership notices must be submitted on official forms which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Life Memberships, The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206

Clarence H. Myers (1992) Post 224, Ticonderoga, NY  
Donald J. Murray (1989), James J. Oulgey (1992) Post 334, Floral Park, NY

John L. Adst (1992) Post 1627, Shokan, NY  
Jack Black, George Lewis (1992) Post 1718, Carle Place, NY

Hugh Hacker (1992) Post 1992, Berea, NY  
Martha M. Viherok (1992) Post 19, N. Scituate, RI

Brad Thompson (1992) Post 240, Stephenville, TX  
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Virgil V. Zajicek (1991) Post 220, Soldiers Grove, WI

Frank M. Alarcon, Ralph V. Gaughan, Nick Gonzales, Charles L. Law, Charles H. Niemeyer, George A. Post, Rolin F. Young (1991) Post 469, Yucca Valley, CA

Thad Nance (1992) Post 589, Salinas, CA  
Robert A. Biggs (1992) Post 795, South Lake Tahoe, CA  
Claude Albert (1992) Post 2, Bristol, CT

Charles S. Sterback (1992) Post 74, Fairfield, CT  
Robert T. Guilbeault, William N. Poprosky (1992) Post 91, Moosup, CT

Edward D. Barry (1992) Post 156, East Haddam, CT  
William Fensch, Joseph W. Seaward (1993) Post 7, Clearwater, FL

Lonnie Van Horn (1992) Post 5, Rome, GA  
Virgil Penton, Merle I. Robinson (1992) Post 210, Anita, IA  
Lambert N. Erpelting (1992) Post 41, Wendell, ID

L. E. Bolt, Henry D. Hebert, James C. Stippich (1971) Post 49, Emmet, ID  
Paul F. Bann, William M. Flanagan (1992) Post 321, New Baden, IL

Roger D. Johnson (1992) Post 1231, Lake In The Hills, IL  
Eugene Cross, Everett Dudley, Robert Larrowe, George A. Wingate (1991) Post 437, Selma, IN

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## PLOTS THICKEN

Continued from page 31

out of him because his illegal activities have been overexposed...so President Bill Clinton will execute Trilateral policies after January," says Patterson. "The conspiracy can't be foiled. They've got the country by the throat."

Sacramento psychologist Terence Sandbek says conspiracy theories are very appealing to many people.

"One underlying reason people believe in conspiracies is a need to have things neat and tidy," says Sandbek, who has studied beliefs in ephemeral ideas such as astrology and ESP (extrasensory perception). "There is a strong drive in most people to avoid ambiguity. Zealots among the conspiracy people see the world in terms of black and white, us and them. You can see how that fits with this need for total lack of ambiguity."

Besides, he says, "you read nonfiction about the inner workings of government agencies like the CIA" and it doesn't require much of a leap of faith to think historic events have large or mysterious causes instead of idiosyncratic or mundane ones.

But psychologist Thomas Gilovich suspects unfounded conspiracy thinking arises for the same reason any rational person might believe in something that's not true—flawed reasoning.

"Even when we are trying to be as unbiased as possible, we don't always get the story right," says Gilovich, a professor of social science at Cornell University and author of *How We Know What Isn't So: The Fallibility of Human Reasoning in Everyday Life*.

"At the turn of the century, there were a lot of editorials in newspapers laughing at harebrained Walter Reed and questioning how a tiny mosquito could be responsible for the terrible malaria plague in South America. People looked at the evidence and got it wrong," Gilovich says.

One reason people frequently get it wrong is because of what Gilovich calls "representational bias" in thinking. Just as public opinion doubted an insect could cause a devastating epidemic, "there's an intuition that causes should resemble their effects," he says.

In daily trivial life, this misperception leads to such mistaken notions that people with congestion and colds shouldn't drink milk, or greasy-faced teenagers shouldn't eat potato chips.

Similarly, "big events need big dramatic causes," says Gilovich. "Most of the conspiracy theories deal with big events, like the assassination of JFK. You just need something bigger in magnitude than the fact that there's this low-life character who one day in Dallas changed the course of U.S. history by himself."

Corroborating evidence is another snafu in reasoning, says Gilovich. Seeing what we want to see and ignoring what we don't is standard operating procedure.

Are more babies born under full moons? Do infertile couples who adopt a child increase their odds of becoming pregnant? Statistically no. But people tend to remember a few extraordinary cases and overlook the norm. Same is true in conspiracy thinking.

"If some bit of evidence threatens your position, you look at it very hard and find the flaws," says Gilovich. "You don't look equally hard at evidence which supports your position."

Since Kennedy's assassination, Americans have been awestruck at the seemingly paranormal parallels in the lives of Kennedy and Abraham Lincoln (Kennedy's secretary's name was Lincoln; Lincoln's secretary's name was Kennedy, etc.).

Gilovich says remarkable coincidences typically undermine rational thinking. "The lives of those two Presidents are very complex, and if you kick over it seriously enough you're going to find some pieces that match," he says. "People fail to realize some coincidences that seem improbable are really quite common."

Statistics classes in colleges nationwide typically demonstrate the coincidence phenomenon using birthdate probabilities, he says.

Asked to weigh the probability that at least two people in a random group of 23 people would share the same birthday, most people are surprised to learn the odds are 50-50. They also are shocked to find out that in a group of 35 the odds of matching birthdays is 85 percent.

If anything feeds conspiracy thinking until it's bloated with faulty conclusions, it's the hearsay bias that is a normal attribute of the thought processes.

That happened two years ago when TV viewers called a special phone line for *The Phil Donahue Show*. It was set up to dismiss the rapidly spreading rumor that the president of the Procter & Gamble Co. had appeared on the talk show on March 1, 1991, and admitted that "a large portion of the profits"

from corporate sales go to support the Church of Satan.

Procter & Gamble denied it. The Donahue show stated unequivocally the telecast never happened. "If your family and friends say they've seen it, they are quite mistaken" was the response the phone callers got. But the company still fields calls about the rumor.

Company spokeswoman Ann Jene-mann Smith connects the Donahue hoax to a 12-year bout the conservative Cincinnati manufacturer has waged against nameless conspiracy mongers who think they see the devil behind every roll of toilet paper and can of coffee it makes. Rumors claim Procter & Gamble's century-old man-in-the-moon logo symbolizes the company is in league with the devil.

In July 1991, the company finally had to redesign its logo to eliminate the curls in the man-in-the-moon's beard that some people saw as three sixes—the Antichrist designation, 666. "We really don't know how this got started," says Smith. "And we don't know why it continues."

Rumors and conspiracy theories often make much ado of unsubstantiated testimony.

One brewer of a popular Mexican beer found that out when it had to spend thousands of dollars to squelch the false hearsay circulating in the United States that its secret ingredient was urine. Eyewitness accounts that smoke appeared above the grassy knoll when Kennedy was shot convince people without any other proof that a gun must have been fired from there.

"Every study we have tells us that our perceptions and memory of events are unreliable, especially of an exciting and emotional event with a lot of turmoil," reports William Domhoff, professor of psychology and sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. "Yet all of them speak with utter certainty, which is part of the big psychological dimension of conspiracy theory."

But Domhoff says the lure of conspiracy theories goes beyond taking someone's word for it. In fact, it goes to the heart of how we overestimate the institutions of our society and the people who run them.

"Conspiracy theorists tend to vastly overstate the cleverness of individuals, and the cohesion of the groups and the foresight that members of the power structure allegedly have," says Domhoff, author of *Who Rules America?*

Instead of being all-powerful and grand strategists of worldwide manipulation, the nature of organizations—including the U.S. government and any

so-called secret power structure—tends to be inept and just slightly less disorganized than the rest of us, he explains.

"The nature of their capability is not such that they could pull off a conspiracy."

To think otherwise can prove disempowering, warns Domhoff. "It is absolutely debilitating to any kind of political action. It makes the average person feel hopeless and helpless. There is no possibility of changing anything because the people in power are so clever and so totally in charge."

Why become obsessed with a politically paralyzing theory then? Why believe AIDS is a "designer disease" created by government scientists to wipe out gays, drug abusers and blacks? Or that a worldwide "cosmopolitan" conspiracy plans to abolish national identity? Or that the disintegration of the Soviet Union is a KGB master plan for catching the United States off guard?

"For conspiracy thinkers, everything becomes grist for their particular mill," says Domhoff. "But why? That's the \$64,000 question." □

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# ROTC

Continued from page 29

slot, I went to airborne school and participated in the Ranger Challenge Team," says cadet Nathan Remaly, a 20-year-old junior at Indiana University. "You have to earn active duty; you don't just get it."

But, competition is so tough that many ROTC graduates may not receive their first choice of duty.

"My biggest concern for myself and my peers is not having a career in the military, but getting the occupational slots we want," says Sam Valencia, a 23-year-old senior NROTC midshipman at the University of Southern California. "I want to enter the field of intelligence and linguistics, but I don't know if the slot will be available."

Indiana University senior Mike Grundman, a 21-year-old cadet captain, says he is concerned about his active-duty status.

"I've thought about the downsizing a lot. It worries me," he says. "But if you want to go active, you can. It's a matter of participating in the extra camps."

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One expert, however, predicts more dire effects of the ROTC downsizing.

"In the past, the military could guarantee an active duty slot for qualified ROTC cadets," says retired Army Col. Robert F. Collins, author of *Reserve Officer Training Corps*, a comprehensive guide on how to become a military officer without attending a service academy.

"Well, they can't make that guarantee anymore," Collins declares. "The drawdown will make it more difficult for ROTC to attract qualified people because they can't guarantee active duty."

Yet, some observers expect things to return to normal once the downsizing is complete.

"I see the pendulum swinging back," says Air Force Col. Tom Trotta, a University of Tennessee avionics professor. "By the time these kids get commissioned, the Air Force will be smaller.

The downsizing will be over. There will be more opportunities for advancement, and quicker advancement."

Figuring into the officer-production equation are the services' two other sources for military leaders: the military academies at West Point, Annapolis and Colorado Springs, and the officer candidate schools (OCS) for enlisted people. But ROTC generates more new Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps officers than any other source.

Although the military academies are prestigious, the U.S. military has drawn from the ranks of ROTC graduates for some of its greatest leaders for more than 75 years. Today their numbers include Army Gen. Colin L. Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan; Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Merrill McPeak; and Commandant of

## MEDALS FOR MERIT

RECOGNIZING the nation's outstanding ROTC cadets has long been a significant program of The American Legion.

In the past four years alone, Legion Posts have awarded an average of 10,000 ROTC medals a year to deserving cadets and midshipmen nationwide.

The medals are among the few non-Department of Defense awards permitted to be worn on ROTC uniforms.

The Legion's commitment to the ROTC program was reaffirmed as recently as the 1990 National Convention in Indianapolis, where delegates passed Res. 383 urging Congress to support ROTC programs through adequate funding.

"ROTC's leadership-producing qualities and cost effectiveness has been proved time and again throughout the years. High school and collegiate ROTCs deserve the support of all Americans," says William O. Moore Jr., Chairman of the Nation's National Security Commission.

There are two kinds of Legion ROTC medals—one honors military achievement, the other academic achievement. In each of those two categories, students can receive bronze, silver or gold Legion ROTC medals.

Bronze medals are awarded to high school seniors or to college ROTC freshmen who have qualified

for admission to the sophomore ROTC courses. Silver medals are awarded to sophomores who are qualified for, or are participating in, junior ROTC courses. Gold medals are available to juniors who are qualified for, or those participating in, senior ROTC courses.

"It's very rewarding to be recognized by the Legion for academic success," says Jim Eadie, who received a Legion ROTC medal for academic excellence from Post 322 of Clinton, Mich. Eadie, a 21-year-old University of Michigan senior, has a 3.91 grade point average out of a possible 4.0.

Legionnaires are recognized for their medals program, too. At every National Convention since 1975, the Legion awards the Paul H. Griffin ROTC trophy to the Departments whose Posts award the highest number of medals.

The Departments recognized last year as the top ROTC medal-givers were Alaska, Delaware, Florida and Puerto Rico.

Moore urges Posts to begin ROTC medals programs, and for Posts that already have programs, to increase their involvement with ROTC units.

For more information about the Legion's ROTC medals program, write: The American Legion, National Security/Foreign Relations Division, 1608 K St. N.W., Washington, DC 20006. — T.D.D.

the Marine Corps Gen. Carl E. Mundy.

In fact, only two current members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff are not ROTC graduates.

"ROTC is the best way to become an officer," says Damian Tsoutsouris, a 17-year-old Indiana University freshman in the Army ROTC program.

ROTC is also a rewarding way to pay for college.

This year, out of the more than 60,000 students enrolled in ROTC classes, about 20 percent are on scholarships that pay all or some of their college tuitions. More than 20,000 ROTC students are college juniors and seniors who expect to be commissioned second lieutenants or ensigns. Most who receive money toward their education from ROTC owe eight years of service, often a combination of active duty, Reserve, Guard or Individual Ready Reserve assignments.

For some students, ROTC helps make college affordable. University of Michigan junior Jim Eadie couldn't afford his school's more than \$7,000 yearly out-of-state tuition without his Air Force ROTC scholarship.

"I plan on a military career in the medical field," says Eadie, whose 3.91 grade point average out of a possible 4.0 earned him an American Legion ROTC medal for academic excellence.

In exchange for ROTC's financial assistance, cadets such as Eadie face 5 a.m. physical training and five-mile marches in addition to the usual midterms and research papers.

As a trade off for their commitment, they receive two-, three- or four-year scholarships, depending on the branch of service they choose.

For example, a full four-year scholarship in Army ROTC will pay \$8,000 annually, or 80 percent of tuition, whichever is more; plus a \$100-a-month living allowance during the school year. Veterans also are eligible to compete for ROTC scholarships.

The importance of ROTC programs to the nation cannot be ignored.

Historically, it has been the largest source of commissioned officers. It has commissioned 600,000 Army officers since 1920, about 70 percent of all second lieutenants. Half of the top Army commanders in Operation Desert Storm were ROTC graduates.

Since 1947, the NROTC program has commissioned 75,689 Navy and Marine Corps officers; and AFROTC, some 200,445 officers since 1946.

ROTC also supports the concept of civilian control of the military. "The nation's ROTCs are vital because they ensure that we get a cross section of

people into the military officer corps," says Lawrence Korb, a military personnel expert at the Washington, D.C.-based Brookings Institute and a former assistant secretary of defense.

"They enforce the idea that the U.S. military is composed of citizen-soldiers," Korb says.

Most of the time, ROTC cadets are typical college students. Once graduated, these students become the majority of officers in the U.S. military, Korb says.

**R**OTC is also the most cost-effective officer production program, training more officers for less money per officer than the service academies.

For example, in fiscal year 1991, the Air Force Academy commissioned 977 officers at a training and education cost of about \$246,000 per officer. Meanwhile, the AFROTC commissioned 2,123 officers at a cost of about \$58,000 per officer.

The services' Officer Candidate Schools, which train enlisted members to be officers, are the least costly. But they commission relatively few officers compared to ROTC.

Despite ROTC's advantages, it still faces problems on college campuses

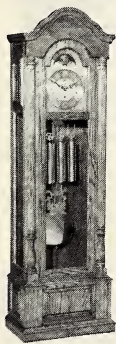
because of the Pentagon's ban on homosexuals serving in uniform. According to the American Civil Liberties Union, in the past two years, about 60 colleges and universities have challenged the ban.

One example is Alfred University in Alfred, N.Y. In November 1991, the university's faculty voted to eliminate academic credit for ROTC classes until the Department of Defense (DoD) rescinds the prohibition against homosexuals.

Despite the controversy, DoD maintains that homosexuality is incompatible with military service and that ROTC will continue to provide most of the nation's military leaders for years to come.

Lt. Col. Kryway made that point in his retirement speech at Indiana University. As an IU graduate himself, Kryway mused that somewhere among the ranks of the freshmen in IU sweat-shirts and the seniors in Army fatigues was his future replacement.

As the ceremony ended, the cadets lined up to officially greet their new commander. The nation's colors had been passed—to a newer, leaner ROTC. The challenge will be to make certain the quality goes in before the bars go on. ☐



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# ART LINKLETTER

Continued from page 27

interviewed in the '50s and '60s?

**A.** The children I interviewed were from 4 to 10 years old. The children in those ages today are practically unchanged. They still live in a world of total absorption with their mothers and their fathers. Their lives are their families. You ask, "What does your daddy and mommy do for fun?" and a little boy will say, "Search me, they always lock the door." I once asked a 5-year-old boy, "Who is your favorite president?" He said, "Abraham Lincolnletter."

However, from 10 years old and up today, the children are vastly different from what they were 25 years ago.

Today's children from the upper-grammar school, junior high school and on have a different kind of language. They become adults too fast because of the freedom they have. Their language is deplorable. You walk through a high school or a junior high school campus and you hear the four-

letter words flying around like "and," "the," or "but" used to.

**Q.** Is that a result of the weakened family structure?

**A.** Absolutely. There's a lack of discipline and positive role models.

**Q.** With all the problems today, do you believe America is in decline?

**A.** No, not at all. I'm an optimist in spite of the fact that we have our problems. I often think back to the remark made by some great statesman. I think it was Churchill. He said democracy is a terrible form of government, but it just happens to be better than any other. I travel a quarter of a million miles a year around the world. Wherever I go, people tell me, "Boy, I'd love to live in America."

As I travel through the United States, I find honorable, decent, warm people who love their families and are the kind of people who come to mind when we think of Americans. These are the people who are going to win out. They'll persevere and they'll be around when the cheap shots have all been forgotten.

**Q.** How did your early religious upbringing affect your career?

**A.** My father was a Baptist minister and I received training in morality and ethics from him. It has been a great help to me through the years. I think the Bible is still a great book to learn the lessons of life by.

When I was 16, I became a hobo and went out to ride the rails of this country. Whenever I got into a tough spot, I always prayed. My father had always told me, "Artie, God will watch out for you, and our prayers will follow you," and they have.

**Q.** You've said senior Americans are one of our most treasured resources, but they need to stand up for themselves. What do you mean by that?

**A.** When you are old, you can't be a sissy. Don't let anyone push you around, including your doctor.

Today, people over 60 control 75 percent of the resources of the country through home ownership and their retirement programs. Older people now vote in greater percentages than younger people do.

The older people have so much influence in Washington through AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) and other groups that they may very well be tempted to ask for more than they should get, or that the government can afford.

The health demands of 35 million Americans are taking about four-fifths of the catastrophic health money available in this country. We don't know what's going to happen in the years to come as the average person gets to be 85, 90 and 95.

**Q.** What programs would you institute to help seniors?

**A.** I think seniors primarily need to know where the resources are for their problems. Many seniors still don't know about all the state, local and federal government agencies that will help them. The big thing is to get the word out to older people.

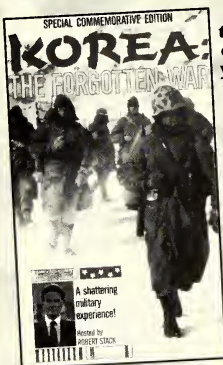
**Q.** Many seniors today are veterans. Have you had any dealings with veterans and active duty personnel?

**A.** I've spoken and appeared at many benefits for The American Legion, of course, and the U.S.O. with Bob Hope and my other friends. During one of the wars, I did radio shows for the government that were broadcast to military units all over the world.

**Q.** Do you feel America does enough for its veterans?

**A.** No, I don't. I think it's a sad thing. It does a lot for its veterans, but

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could do more. I have visited hospitals all over the world and talked to wounded men. I think that we can never do too much for our veterans.

**Q.** You appear to have endless energy. Where does it come from?

**A.** I take extremely good care of myself. I apparently have good genes because I've never been very sick. I never smoked and only drank moderately. I have always exercised.

I spend six weeks skiing in the mountains of Sun Valley, Vail, Aspen and Steamboat Springs. I exercise, watch what I eat and don't get overweight. I also work on my attitude and my mind so that I don't get stressed out.

**Q.** You put yourself through college and then went on to become extremely successful. Are the same opportunities available today?

**A.** More so than ever before. We are living in a time of such change that opportunities exist everywhere, if you are willing to work for them.

**Q.** If you could change five things about the United States, what would they be?

**A.** The first thing I'd change would be to make American parents more aware that the family is the center of our civilization, and it is in disrepair.

Second, I'd strengthen ethics and morality. In my lifetime of 80 years, I have seen a distinct decline in the old-fashioned fundamentals of fairness and honesty.

Third, I would revamp our educational system. We have kids who graduate without being able to read properly, write a good letter or go out on a business interview.

The fourth would be to revive the religious beliefs in the country and the sense of spiritual strength we have lost.

Finally, I would like to get our citizens to recognize their obligations to give back to this country, and not just take.

**Q.** What things wouldn't you change about the country?

**A.** I wouldn't change the basic belief we all have in our nation. I think most Americans believe that we have the best form of government ever. Although there have been abuses, our capitalist system is still the best.

Nor would I change our freedom of religion, or the right of the people to have free speech. Sometimes Americans just need to be reminded of all the great things that we enjoy.

## MANY FAITHS

Continued from page 14

"TFA is a great way to spread the word about the Legion," says Horner, a WWII Army veteran who preached for 18 years after leaving the service. "I always make sure to have some membership application forms in the car when I travel."

In his second year as Department Chaplain, Horner says another of his projects is to distribute Bibles and audio cassette tapes of the Bible to Oklahoma hospitals. Horner often gives veterans cassette players so they can listen to the word of God.

\*\*\*

The Legion chaplains program embraces all religions, and Legion chaplains are not required to be members of the clergy. National Chaplains are selected by the National Commander, and Department and Post chaplains are selected by vote or appointment.

Each year, Legion and Auxiliary chaplains travel to National Headquarters in Indianapolis to attend the Chaplains Conference, which helps them es-

tablish or maintain religious programs. The 1993 conference will be held Aug. 10-11.

For those interested in the program, *The American Legion Chaplains' Handbook* is available for 85 cents per copy or \$75 per 100, and *The Chaplain's Prayer Manual* is \$1 per copy. Write: The American Legion National Americanism Commission, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. —by T. Douglas Donaldson

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Readers who can help these veterans are urged to write a witness letter, including the CID number. Send the letters to CID, The American Legion Magazine, Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Notices are published only at the requests of American Legion Service Officers representing claimants using Search for Witness Forms available from Department Legion Service Officers.

169th Const. Engrs. Larry W. Derryberry needs witnesses to verify that while stationed at Long Binh, Vietnam, in either September or October 1966, he fell from a 25-foot power pole. Contact CID 1179.

1st Cav., 7th Pgt., 3rd Bn., Co. K Richard D. Feuling needs witnesses to verify that while stationed at Camp Chitose, Hokkaido, Japan, during the winter of 1953-54, he froze his feet and was transferred to Supply. Contact CID 1180.

3163rd Engr. Petrol Dist. Grady David Laughlin needs witnesses to verify that stomach disorders resulted in his being hospitalized for a hernia and for ulcers at Camp Crawft, S.C., was hospitalized later for mental problems at the Port of Debarkation at Washington State in 1946. Contact CID 1184.

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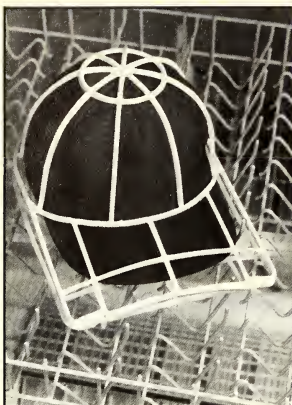
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## VIRTUAL REALITY

Continued from page 25

Hines describes the computer condo as if he were a real estate agent trying to close a deal. As you wheel through the virtual rooms, he says, you can even see off-beat decorator touches that he added himself.

"The bathroom has a blue-tiled floor and cream white walls," Morris says. "There's a deep white carpet, and a couch and table in the living room, and the bedroom is furnished with a bed, table and dresser with drawers you can open."

In the virtual kitchen, you use the gloved hand to pull open the oven door and test how easy it is to reach inside. (User consensus was that it's not easy enough, and the door hits the wheelchair when it's opened.) You can check the widths of the hallways by wheeling through them. (The consensus was that they seem a little tight for everybody.)

The Hines system costs about \$30,000, and the glove alone runs more than \$5,000.

But VR prices are dropping rapidly, and industry observers predict that

within 10 years a VR system like this will cost about the same as today's videocassette recorders.

For Morris, the gear already is well worth it. Not only does it show potential for improving designs for the disabled, but these virtual rooms also offer a training ground.

"Like a flight simulator, it can reduce risk," Morris says, "and we hope reduce the time it takes to train people to use wheelchairs."

VR can potentially reduce the time it takes to learn everything from driving a tank to managing a stock portfolio.

"The Navy's been looking at virtual reality for teaching sailors to deal with impaired-visibility operations on ships," says Tom Coull, president of Sense8 Corp., a California company that makes computer instruction software for VR systems.

"Firefighting is an example," Coull says. "What happens when the ship is burning and filled with smoke, and men have to run through this kind of alien environment with breathing apparatus and goggles on?"

That's the kind of environment you can simulate really well" with virtual reality, he says.

Another Sense8 client, Great Britain's defense ministry, is designing simulators for tanks.

"They'll be enclosed and sealed,"

## OUT OF BODY EXPERIENCE

**E**NTERING virtual reality was like returning to my first day of kindergarten. I kept bumping into things, and at times I wanted to go home.

My trip began when representatives from Intel, the large computer chip maker, and Sense8, a software company, led me to an ordinary chair in the Jack Tilton Gallery in New York City. The art gallery was the site of the first U.S. Virtual Reality Art exhibit last summer.

Seated in the chair, I put on a white helmet with two small built-in TV screens which engulfed me in a 3-D, full-color, computer-generated world. It felt like being inside one of my children's Nintendo games. But it was a lot quieter and calmer.

I was apparently floating inside an art gallery with paintings hanging on the walls and ceiling. The scene shifted when I turned my head, but the system took a fraction

of a second to respond, reminding me of the slightly disoriented feeling I had 46 years ago in Mrs. Barnum's kindergarten class.

A joystick in my right hand provided "legs," enabling me to move forward and back, and turn left and right. It took about five minutes to master the fighter pilot's skill of not overcontrolling. In the meantime, as I bumped into walls and paintings, I could almost hear Mrs. Barnum tell me to take my seat.

But no one yelled at me. And none of the objects made a sound when I collided—even when I passed right through them. Once, I drifted mistakenly through a wall into an empty white space. I had to figure out how to turn with the joystick and shove my way back through the wall into "reality."

Now that I think more about it, it was not at all like kindergarten. —G.W. □

Coull says. "So the only way their crews will see out will be through periscope-type devices such as television or infrared viewers."

VR also offers the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) new avenues of training, according to Kevin Teixeira, virtual reality project manager for Intel Corp., manufacturer of microcomputer components that are the engines of VR systems.

"To train an astronaut now, he quite often has to put on a suit and go into a pool of water," Teixeira says, an environment actually quite unlike the no-gravity conditions of space.

In VR, the astronaut could practice all the work he does in a pool, but with added realism.

A small shove from another astronaut, for example, could simulate potential disaster. "The video would give him the impression he was spinning, just the way he would in a no-G environment," Teixeira says.

For the past eight years, the NASA Ames Research Center at Moffett Field in California has been designing an entire space tour of VR worlds.

NASA's Michael McGreevy has been making computer models of the moon and planets from visual data picked up by space probes, satellites and astronaut photographs such as those taken of the Martian surface from the Viking missions of the 1970s.

When McGreevy's project is done, you'll be able to put on a VR helmet and glove, hold a planet in your hand and point to where you want to land. Like a moment from *Star Trek*, you'll beam down and look at the countryside of an alien world.

"You'll feel like you were there," says McGreevy.

In a more down-to-earth application, researchers at the VA hospital in White River Junction, Vt., are experimenting with a VR system that allows surgeons to practice on a virtual human leg. Using a computer mouse in place of a scalpel and without touching a real patient, they can perform the key procedures to repair soft-tissue wounds.

"It should help us choose the best reconstructive procedures for complex injuries and tumor removal," says Dr. Joseph M. Rosen, chief of plastic surgery at the hospital.

Maintaining the health of an investment portfolio, instead of a surgical patient, is the goal of a VR design made by Maxus Systems International in New York.

In Maxus' virtual financial world, colored chips represent stocks. They

float near a grid, like flying bugs hovering above and below a city street map. Each block on the map represents a particular industry in a particular stock market.

With a joystick like the ones computer game jockeys use, traders can zoom in on any block and get an immediate impression of what stock is hot and what's not.

The colors clue you in rapidly. Red, for example, means a stock has fallen since the previous day.

In the future, fellow traders will show up in the gridwork, says Maxus President Sean Manefield. "You'll be able to say, 'Meet me over at the Hong Kong electrics,' and then you would fly there and discuss market activity," Manefield says. "You would 'see' your business friends as tiny human figures."

And business enemies? Tell the computer to represent them like little Darth Vaders, and then blow them up like space aliens, if you want. In virtual reality, they'll never feel a thing. □

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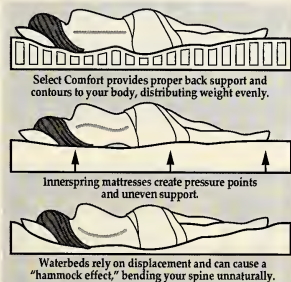
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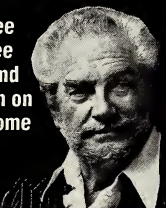
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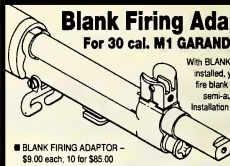
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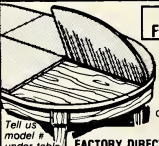
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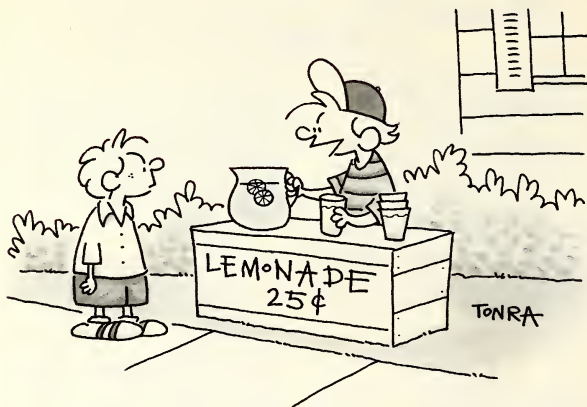
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The TV networks have developed a new version of the show, *America's Most Wanted*—but this new show is about jobs.

## Low-interest Account

This lingering recession is driving companies to desperate measures. Appliance stores have begun offering free savings accounts to anyone who buys a toaster.

## Return Ire

A comedian patiently waited out a heckler's barrage of insults. Then, he pointed to the man and said, "Have you ever noticed how people who are thoughtless are seldom wordless?"

## Will To Live

"Joe, now that you've saved your money and have a good nest egg, you really should make out a will," said his attorney.

"Well, that's probably good advice," Joe said. "But I figure now that I have some money, there's no point in dying."

## Under Time

"My husband says I talk in my sleep," Teri said to Sherry. "But I'm skeptical. Nobody at work has ever mentioned it."

## Sign From Above

Sign on church: "After 2,000 years, still under the same management."

## Nutty Humor

Archaeologists have discovered some 5,000-year-old beer. It seems that the ancient Sumerians, in what's now part of Iran and Iraq, were drinking beer as early as 3100 B.C. At the same site, the researchers also found a bowl of ancient beer nuts, but it seems the beer nuts were 7,000 years old. Yes, the tradition of serving stale beer nuts does, indeed, go back a long way.

## Japanese Connection

How are we supposed to make ends meet when one end is all the way over in Japan.

## Rain Drop Stop

Mark Twain and his friend, William Dean Howells, were about to leave church one Sunday when they saw it was beginning to rain. Howells casually said, "Think it will stop?"

Twain retorted, "It always has."

## Defending The Debt

Who says we don't need a large standing army anymore? With a national debt like ours, if nothing else, we need protection against bill collectors.

## Waiting Game

"Harry, I asked you to take out the trash two hours ago," said Mary, Harry's frustrated wife. "When are you ever going to overcome your procrastination problem?"

Said Harry, after straightening his paper and changing the channel on the television. "Well, we'll just have to wait and see."

## Bare Market

February is one of the peculiarly dangerous months to speculate in stocks. The others are July, January, September, April, November, May, March, June, December, August, January and October.

## Podium Prayers

The presidential debates may not have had any effect on the turnout at the polls, but a recent survey says they sure increased turnout at prayer meetings.

## Ski Tripping

Jed and Fred stood perched at the top of a huge ski run.

"Are you ready for this?" Jed asked, looking down the white slope.

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